

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXXVIII., No. 1023.

SHANGHAI, MARCH 2, 1887.

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The French mail of 6th January, arrived in London on the 11th inst.

BIRTH.

At "Windy Arbour," Carter Road, on the 25th instant, the wife of Captain E. SUENSON, of a son.

DEATH.

At Tokio, Japan, on the 26th instant, WILLIAM CLARK EASTLACK, aged 53 years.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Satsuma Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. G. Mosner. For Kobe—Messrs. G. Geigy, R. Geigy, D. Bernard and J. D. Woodford. For Yokohama—Messrs. G. Berden, Wm. McDonald, R. A. T. Brewster, S. Sasaki and Mochiyoshi Hatsu.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Telamon*, from London—Mrs. Sutton.

Per str. *Ozu*, from Marseilles—H.E. Viscount Shinagawa, (Japanese Minister), Viscountess Shinagawa and suite, Mr. and Mrs. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Roy, Mr. and Mrs. Chollot, Mrs. St. Germain, Messrs. Byres, Selves, Moll, Griffon, Krunk, Rouen, Lebedel, Guerneur, Lafosse, Yvon, Maillard, Roubinot, Riviere, Miyoko, Nakasawa, Miura and Amagata.

Per str. *Coromandel*, from London—Messrs. E. L. B. Allen, J. McMurray, R. A. Cousens. From Hongkong—Messrs. M. Bell and servant, W. Howie and servant, G. W. Coutts, A. Robinson and C. M. Ede.

Per str. *Prometheus*, from Liverpool—Mrs. McKelvie and child.

Per str. *Tokio Maru*, from Japan—Messrs. E. Wal, S. Marsh, Y. Iwasaki, G. T. Taylor, U. Pila, L. Pila, H. Smith, P. Geuin, and Dr. E. Ruegg.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Ningpo—Rev. J. Williamson and 2 children.

Per str. *Ngankin*, from Wuhu—Mr. and Mrs. Burrows and child. From Chinkiang—Miss Hoag.

Per str. *Canton*, from Hongkong—Sergeant Savage, Sergeant Phillips, Messrs. Muir and Lewis.

Per str. *Wenchow*, from Amoy—Mr. and Mrs. Tebbutt.

Per str. *Haeslin*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Taft, Mr. and Mrs. Mullins, Mrs. Petersen, Messrs. Y. A. Bawn and Petersen.

Per str. *Poochi*, from Chefoo—Mr. W. R. Fuller.

Per str. *Kiangyü*, from Hankow—Messrs. Lay, Morgan and Bergholz.

Per str. *Hoihow*, from Swatow—Dr. Petersen.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Iraouaddy*, for Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. L. Rocher, Messrs. Ki and Zee.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Thermometer in shade.		Hygrometer at 9 A.M.		WIND.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	10 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.		
Feb. 17	30.45	41.0	47.0	34.0	41.0	39.0	N.W.	..
18	30.43	40.0	49.0	33.0	40.0	38.5	N.E.	..
19	30.35	45.0	48.0	34.0	45.0	44.0	E.S.E.	..
20	30.40	46.0	54.0	38.0	46.0	42.0	North	..
21	30.28	43.0	48.0	37.0	43.0	40.0	S.E.	..
22	30.23	46.0	50.0	37.0	46.0	45.0	E.S.E.	..
23	30.30	46.0	47.0	43.0	46.0	44.0	N.E.	..
24	30.30	47.0	48.0	42.0	47.0	45.0	"	..
25	30.20	47.0	48.0	43.0	47.0	46.0	N.	..
26	30.20	47.0	50.0	45.0	47.0	46.0	N.E.	..
27	30.22	45.0	49.0	42.0	45.0	43.0	N.	..
28	30.20	46.0	47.0	38.0	46.0	44.0	N.E.	..
Mar 1	30.30	41.0	43.0	38.0	41.0	38.0	"	..
2	30.33	40.0	44.0	37.0	40.0	38.0	N.	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 21 estimated.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, MAR. 2, 1887.

THE article in the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* attributed to the Marquis Tréng continues to attract, as is only natural, considerable attention. As the Marquis has allowed his name to appear at the foot of it, we must at least believe that its opinions have received his sanction, and some of them are so striking that they deserve farther consideration than we have already given them. That China was asleep fifty years ago is undoubted; even twenty-five years ago most residents in China, and students of her condition, believed her to be moribund. It seemed impossible to believe that the exhaustion consequent on the Taiping rebellion could be merely transitory, and we smiled at their ignorance when the home papers began to declare that China was a factor to be reckoned with in Asiatic politics. Jules Ferry had the majority of Europeans on his side when he declared that China was a *quantité négligeable*, and when hostilities threatened between France and China, the best friends of the latter power advised her to agree with her adversary quickly. In the end the fight was a drawn one, for China was far from gaining the success which the author of the article claims. "China laughed to scorn the demand of France for an indemnity, exacted the restoration of her invaded territory, and made peace in the hour of victory." True; but hardly the whole truth. Although France carried on the war with the most inadequate means and ill-advised plans, it was she and not China that gained the object of the war, Tongking; and though China made peace in the hour of a victory due to one of those unreasoning panics to which the best troops are sometimes liable, it was the threat of a blockade of the gulf of Pechili, and a stoppage of the supplies on which the capital depends, that induced her to make peace. We recall this historical fact as we recall the corruption of officials, the doubtful state of the defence, and the other evils with which China is afflicted and likely to remain afflicted for a long time to come, because the Marquis Tréng really speaks as if she were a rejuvenated, reformed State of great power. That way of his is merely the old boasting relacquered to suit the times, and may be allowed to pass as

merely China's way. But it is different when English newspapers adopt all the ignorance of the Marquis as to the condition of his own country, and seriously consider his speculations as to her future. There is danger in that, not from any English statesman seriously entertaining the idea of his countrymen being placed under Chinese jurisdiction, but because other rights may be fribbled away as a compensation to China for foregoing a preposterous demand and as a solace to her wounded susceptibilities. And one cannot estimate the depth of the ignorance of actual China, until one has read what first-class English journals, such as the *Spectator*, say about her. If the Marquis really labours under any such delusion as his article expresses, it will be bad for him and his country, which is in reality very far from rapidly approaching a position of perfect security. To buy ironclads and cruisers in England and Germany is not to create a strong and really efficient navy; it is men and officers that she wants, and without them, and they cannot be trained and educated in a year or two, her ships are foredoomed to be laid up in inaccessible harbours, or become the prizes of her enemy. The raw material of her armies is good enough, but she has neither generals nor a system, and numbers are not everything. This the Marquis must know, and it is perhaps this knowledge that inspired his closing sentence; "the world is not so near its end that China need hurry, nor the circles of the sun so nearly done that she will not have time to play the rôle assigned her in the work of nations."

If we could agree with the author of the article as to the prowess displayed and the success achieved by China in her late war, we should be more ready to be surprised at the moderation which she is said to have since displayed. It is put with no small amount of eloquence. "Did it change her bearing, or make her unconciliating in her intercourse with the Foreign Powers? No. At no time since her intercourse with the West commenced have her relations with the Treaty Powers, and more particularly with England, been so sincerely friendly. . . . China will continue the policy of moderation and conciliation which has led to this happy result." This is fair enough, but unfortunately it is belied farther on. The very moderation and conciliation which are claimed in the middle of the article, are thrown to the winds before it is ended. "The great Chinese statesman who is now in power, and who, since 1860, has rendered such incalculable services to his country" declared not long ago that Corea was an independent country and on that supposition allowed her to make treaties with Foreign Powers; and now, without a word of apology or explanation, the Marquis Ts'eng warns those Powers that "the Warden of the Marches is now abroad, looking to the security of China's

outlying provinces"—and Corea is the first one mentioned. Then comes the sting of the article. China has forgotten and forgiven the burning of the Summer Palace, but the treaties then imposed on her have been galling her ever since, and she intends to denounce them at the expiry of the present decennial period. Her just susceptibilities are wounded by the extraterritoriality that is the present protection of foreigners on her shores, and she will insist on its abolition. She was much disappointed that Japan did not denounce her foreign treaties instead of negotiating for their revision, and thus obtain abolition of the jurisdiction clauses; and China would then have demanded to be treated as well as Japan by foreign powers. The independence of the foreign settlements, which is also threatened, is a matter that concerns us nearly; and we cannot afford to take these warnings lightly. The Marquis distinctly implies that China will fight rather than allow these insults to her independence to be continued, and she will endeavour to get the other Asiatic countries in the same position to join her in the resistance to these capitulations. At the rate at which China moves, it will take decades rather than years before foreign nations can safely agree to the abolition of extraterritoriality, and can allow their subjects and citizens to come under Chinese jurisdiction everywhere in the empire. The Marquis's threat appears to us as posthumous as it is audacious, but it is not safe to ignore it; there is a current of feeling at home that the wrongs done to China and Japan by the imposition of treaties at the sword's point should be remedied; but the article in the *Asiatic Quarterly* ought to have the effect of uniting all the foreign powers in a determination to refuse the impossible concessions demanded by the Marquis.

Summary of News.

The French mail of 14th January arrived here on the 26th ult., by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Oxus*.

The English mail of 21st January arrived here yesterday, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Coromandel*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Irawaddy*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

[BY EASTERN EXTENSION E. AND A. TEL. CO.]
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

RELIEFS TO THE CHINA SQUADRON.

London, 22nd February.

The corvettes *Cordelia* and *Calliope* have sailed for China.

MR. GOSCHEN APPEALS FOR SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

23rd February.

Mr. Goschen in a speech at a banquet urged all parties to combine to support the Government in the present crisis.

SPECIAL MESSAGE.

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

The elections to the German Parliament have resulted favourably to the Government.

EARTHQUAKE IN FRANCE AND ITALY.

London, 24th February.

An earthquake causing great destruction and loss of life has taken place in the South of France and Northern Italy.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN ITALY.

London, 25th February.

The earthquake in Italy has caused immense disaster, several villages have been destroyed and 1,500 persons killed.

THE GERMAN VOTE OF CREDIT.

The Reichstag has approved of the vote of credit for military preparations.

THE BULGARIAN NEGOTIATIONS GOING ON WELL.

London, 26th February.

The Bulgarian negotiations are progressing favourably.

RENEWAL OF AN ALLIANCE.

The alliance between Germany, Italy and Austria has been renewed.

AUSTRIA AND RUSSIA NOT TO ATTEND AT THE KAISER'S CELEBRATION.

London, 28th February.

Neither the Czar or the Emperor of Austria will attend the Birthday Celebration of the Emperor of Germany.

ANOTHER WAR CREDIT—AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN.

The Austro-Hungarian Minister of War demands from the delegations a credit of Fifty-three millions florins.

THE BALKANS.

The *North German Gazette* announces that Germany will not dispute Russian Claims to the Balkans.

THE JUBILEE HOLIDAY.

London, 1st March.

The Queen will attend the Jubilee service in Westminster Abbey on the 21st June, which will be observed as a holiday.

DEADLOCK IN ITALY.

There is a deadlock in Italy, as the Statesmen all decline to undertake the formation of a new Cabinet.

FRENCH WAR VOTES.

Paris, 11th Feb.

The Chamber of Deputies has unanimously voted, for the reconstruction of material, 86 millions to the war budget and 30 millions to the marine budget.

DEATH OF M. RAOUL DUVAL.

M. Raoul Duval has just died.

Prince Leopold of Prussia is expected here by the *Norddeutscher Lloyd* steamer *Braunschweig* to-day or to-morrow. He is the eldest son of Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia, the Red Prince, and is making a tour round the world to complete his education. He has been visiting his sister, the Duchess of Connaught, in India, en route. His grandfather was the younger brother of the present Emperor of Germany and the late King of Prussia, Frederick William. He is twenty-one years of age, and it will probably not be known until his arrival what official notice will be taken of his visit.

Sir Richard Rennie has gone on circuit, and left Shanghai on Thursday morning in the *Thames* for the South. After visiting all the southern ports on his way up, he will visit the northern ports and Corea.

It has been known for some time that Sir John Walsham's view of the Additional

Article to the Chefoo Convention—in respect of the right of the Chinese to collect *lekin* on opium which had been cleared and landed before the 1st of February—agreed with that of the Customs. He is understood to have advised the Consuls to the effect that the Article was meant to be retrospective. We have, however, reason to believe that the Foreign Office does not agree with Sir John Waleham on this point, and it may therefore be expected that he will shortly furnish the Consuls with fresh advices, and instructions, for their guidance.

The *Hupao* of Saturday contains a proclamation from the Taotai giving the result of the *Nepaul* collision case, and calling on people to send in claims for loss of life, baggage, etc., for the second trial.

We are requested by Archdeacon Moule to state, that in response to his appeal on behalf of Dr. Main's Mission Hospital at Hangchow, which has recently sustained very serious loss through the abstraction by a thief of all the surgical instruments, he has received from friends in Shanghai Forty Mexican Dollars; and, through the kindness of Dr. Boone, representing the American Episcopal Mission, some valuable instruments placed at Dr. Main's disposal which have been promptly forwarded to him. Archdeacon Moule begs to render hearty thanks to those who have so kindly come forward with help; and he appeals at the same time for fresh assistance. In publishing this appeal we would express a hope that Residents will respond to it, as there is no doubt that the Hangchow Hospital is one of the best institutions of the kind in this part of China. It would be a pity if its usefulness were impeded for any length of time by want of instruments.

As there seems to be an erroneous impression abroad about the Hangchow Hospital, Archdeacon Moule writes to us:—The Church Missionary Society has no reserve funds from which to make good such losses; and a draft on the Hospital grant for such a purpose would imply the crippling of its efficiency in other ways.

The *Shên Pao* of yesterday mentions, on the authority of a letter from Peking, that the foreign Customs at each port is to be charged with the issue of opium-shop licences at Tls. 50, Tls. 25 and Tls. 10 according to class. The *Hu Pao* also gives a telegraphic correspondence between the Tsung-li Yamén and the Viceroy Li, from which it appears that Sir Robert Hart has been directed to require the collection of *lekin* on opium already stored in the godowns.

Yesterday *Shên Pao* also contains a long paper on the China Merchants' Company of which the following is an abridgement:—The Board of Revenue has reported to the Emperor upon the subject of a Memorial presented by the Viceroy Li in reference to a proposition that the China Merchants' Company should receive official support and have its accounts audited by the Board of Revenue. The corruption of the management is considered by the Board to be at the root of the evil. The Company was originally started with a capital of Tls. 2,000,000, of which Tls. 1,000,000 were government funds appropriated at the suggestion of the Nanking Viceroy Shên, and Tls. 200,000 each were contributed by Chékiang, Kiangsi, the Kiang-an Grain Taotai, and the Shanghai Customs Taotai. The Nanking Treasurer contributed Tls. 100,000, as also did Hu-peh province. The two new iron steamers from America cost Tls. 1,000,000 more, and were paid for out of the rice freights due to the Company. It is proposed by the Viceroy, and the Board approves, that for every 1,000 piculs of tribute rice taken north, the Company's steamers may be freed from export duty on 200 piculs of return cargo, as in the case of Shanghai and Ningpo rice junks bring-

ing back return cargoes of beans or grain; but opium is not to be thus exempt. It is also proposed to grant the Company's steamers special facilities regarding coarse *mao hoh* tea for Mongolia and Russia such as used to go overland to Kalgan *via* Honan and Hupeh. Tea going from Tientsin to Kalgan will pay land duties as before. Mr. Tong King-sing and several other Directors are unfavourably mentioned in connection with the proposed changes, which are too detailed and extensive for publication by us. It is noted that foreign companies manage to make their steamer lines pay, and the Board is at a loss to understand why the China Merchants' Co. does not pay, except on the assumption that the "middleman" profits at the expense of all others concerned.

A telegram appears in the *Times* of the 10th January, dated Calcutta the 9th, and purporting to give an announcement regarding the dealings of the Chinese with Bhutan given by the *Englishman*. On referring to the latter paper we find that an abstract of our article of the 24th Nov. has been published as a leader in our contemporary, without a word of acknowledgment. This abstract the *Times* Correspondent in Calcutta—who is said to be one of the Staff of the *Englishman*—coolly sent to London as an original statement from that paper. This bit of telegraphic news had been known in England from the 1st of January when the *N.-C. Herald* which contained the "manuscript" *Peking Gazette*, on which our article was founded, reached home, nevertheless, many English papers reproduced the Calcutta telegram referred to. It is a little too much that the contents of this paper should be 'conveyed' in this manner, and given to the world as news obtained by the *Englishman*.

A very pleasant little ceremony took place in the school room of the Central Police Station on Saturday afternoon, the occasion being the presentation of a gold double Albert chain and a locket by the foreign members of the Police Force to Inspector Eveleigh, on his leaving the Force. The idea of giving the retiring officer a testimonial originated with the sergeants, but all the men subscribed towards it. Inspector Cameron acted as spokesman, testifying to the good qualities of Mr. Eveleigh and the regrets of the members at losing him. Mr. Eveleigh briefly replied, thanking the givers for the present and for their good opinion of him. After which those present gave him three cheers and sang "For he's a jolly good fellow, &c." The locket has this inscription:—"Presented to Inspector Eveleigh by the members of the S.M.P. as a mark of esteem. 26, 2, 87."

The directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, have published their report and accounts for the half-year ending 31st December last. The total receipts of the Company for the six months were \$854,285.90, and with the balance brought over there was a net amount available for appropriation of \$162,708.85, out of which the directors proposed to pay a dividend of 7 per cent., and a bonus of \$15,000 to contributing shareholders, writing off \$31,073.73 from the cost of the New Dock, and carrying forward the sum of \$4,260.12. The most difficult parts in the construction of the New Dock are now completed, and it is hoped that it will be opened next year. The total cost including interest is expected to amount to \$750,000.

The Report of the French Gas Company for 1886 should be very satisfactory to the shareholders. The consumption of gas during the year increased from 187,241 cubic metres in 1885 to 202,838 in 1886, of which the municipality took rather more than half. The average cost of coal was Tls. 3.60 per ton against Tls. 3.78 in the previous year, and the leakage fell from 6½ per cent. to 4½ per cent. The total profit for the year was Tls. 10,797.96, of which Tls. 4,138.93 is written off for de-

preciation, Tls. 832.38 carried to Reserve which now amounts to Tls. 17,967.07. Tls. 5,750 distributed in dividends amounting to 11½ per cent., and Tls. 76.65 carried forward. The price of gas is to be reduced, from the 31st of March, to \$0.12 to the Municipality, and \$0.14 to private consumers, per cubic metre. The gross income for the year was Tls. 22,659.44.

We owe to the kindness of the Honorary Secretary a copy of the tenth annual report of the Shanghai Ladies' Benevolent Society. It is a very quiet and unobtrusive, but touching, account of the year's work of the society, which is, no doubt, imposed upon sometimes, as every charity must be, but which does an immense amount of good in cases which are not reached by any other institution here, and does it without flourish and without waste. It is enough to read though the list of cases assisted, to realise how much poverty, and suffering from penury, there is in this wealthy community, and at the same time it is refreshing to see that many of them end with the words, "has found employment and requires no further assistance at present," and to know that the gracious care and charity of the ladies who guide and support the society have kept strength and hope alive, in the interval before that employment was found. The personal attention which so many of the lady members give is worth more than the pecuniary aid they distribute, valuable though that is; and we join with the Secretary in the belief that "if the work done by the Society were better known, a still greater number of ladies would avail themselves of the opportunity of affording relief to those in distress and poverty." The income of the Society, which amounted last year to \$1,220.60, ought easily to be doubled, and those who contribute to it have the satisfaction of knowing that the total working expenses for the year was only \$7.57, the necessary printing being done free of charge by Messrs. Noronha & Sons, and the rest of the work being the result of voluntary energy. We notice in the report that Mrs. Shaw reduces her price for the milk which the Society gives away; and that the needlework department continues to be entirely self-supporting. The existence of this department deserves to be more widely known; many a bachelor must want the services of a seamstress at times, and not know where to get his mending done; it would be an advantage to him to have somewhere to send his work, and it is an advantage to the Society to be able to keep its women supplied with work.

The return match at Football under Association rules between the boys of Mr. Lanning's School and the boys of the Masonic School was played on the grounds of the Shanghai Athletic Club on Monday afternoon, resulting in the renewed victory of Mr. Lanning's boys by four goals to none.

The final tie in the match for the lawn tennis Championship in Hongkong was played off on the 16th instant, between Mr. E. J. Coxon and Mr. W. Bruce-Robertson, the former winning, the score being:—

E. J. Coxon.....	4	6	6	10-3
W. Bruce-Robertson	6	2	3	8-1

The *Chinese Times* advocates the establishment of a Chamber of Commerce at Tientsin. After pointing out the advantages which a Chamber would give to merchants it particularises some of the functions which it would discharge. These are—I. the collection and record of trade statistics, prices current and all kinds of commercial information. II.—The representation of the mercantile body in regard to the regulation of trade under international treaties. And the *Times* further says, it might go on to open out the prospect of a wider expansion of the politico-economical interests of the place, and considers that there is enough in the actual condition of the port to justify

and even demand a representative body other than the Municipal Council. The article concludes:—"The composition of a Chamber of Commerce could only of course be general, or cosmopolitan, representing all interests, and if some plan could be hit upon for embracing the Chinese commercial interests it would be an innovation worthy of the spirit of Tientsin. It would greatly strengthen the base of the pyramid, and could not but conduce to what it so very much to be desired—a closer community of interest and feeling between foreigners and Chinese." We are glad to see the establishment of a Chamber mooted in Tientsin, and hope one will soon be formed. Everything of that kind is an evidence of something more than mere activity in buying and selling, and attracts the attention of the Chinese, leading them to study our methods and aims; and this must have a good effect on them, although it may not be immediately apparent.

At a recent meeting of the members of No. 2, Shanghai Fire Department, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Messrs. J. Howell, Foreman; H. L. Gordon, Assistant Foreman; and W. R. Kahler, Secretary.

We learn from a private letter from Chefoo that the Chinese are going to run a special steamer to Lai Chow-fu for straw-braid. This will be a beginning of the use of steamers at non-treaty ports.

Captain Andrew, late of the *Kuanglee*, has been appointed to the command of the *Toonan* which proceeds to England and Germany shortly with crews for the new Chinese men-of-war.

No less than twelve steamers leave for the North to-morrow morning. They are the *Hacan*, *Pantah*, *Fungshun*, *Poochi*, *El Dorado*, *Kowshing*, *Taku*, *Tungchow*, *Chungking* and *Wuchang* for Tientsin direct; the *Sin Nanjing* for Chefoo and Tientsin, and the *Hoihow* for Chefoo only.

Telegrams were received on Wednesday advising that the steamer *Bangchow* had been got off the rocks near Amoy. She is not strained, and was to go into dock yesterday.

The *Rocket* returned from the wreck of the *Wan-nien-ching* on Sunday, not having been able to do anything as the weather was rough with a heavy Easterly swell. It appears that the wreck has settled down between one and two feet.

On Wednesday night the P. & O. Co.'s tender *Gutzlaff* was in collision with a junk. The tender was conveying the passengers to the mail boat at Woosung, and the night being intensely dark, those in charge of her could not see any great distance ahead. There was a junk anchored across the tide owing to the wind, and being a dark object she was not seen till the *Gutzlaff* was close up to her. Captain Fryer was able, however, to prevent any very serious accident occurring, and his vessel struck the junk a sliding blow close to her bows, which were damaged. The starboard bow of the *Gutzlaff* was also injured.

A substantially built pilot boat was launched from Messrs. Boyd & Co's yard on Thursday afternoon to the order of Mr. Pilot Banker of Newchwang. Her dimensions are:—Length 65 feet, beam 17 ft., depth of hold 9 ft. 6 inches, and she is built of teak and Oregon pine. As she left the ways, she was named the *Jeannette*, by Miss McCallum.

A correspondent writes:—"Why is it that all—or nearly all—nautical men persist in writing, and many newspaper continue to print, "under weigh," as applied to a ship in motion or about to move, when "under way" is undoubtedly correct? Is it possible that the synchroanal action of "weighing anchor" and getting "under way" has suggested the confusion in spelling?"—Mr. W. Clarke Russell, writing in the December number of the *Contemporary Review*, says:—"It is usual to speak of a ship as being "under way. It should

be "under weigh." "The expression is wholly referable to the situation of a ship in the act of moving, after her anchor has been lifted or "weighed." At least one Dictionary gives both forms, Webster has a ship having "way" and we are told the same spelling is given in *Nuttall*; *Latham* gives no definition of "way" as a term in navigation. We have no doubt that the correct terms to use are:—When a ship is starting she is "under weigh," when sailing or steaming she is "under way."

A gentleman not unknown to fame in China, Mr. Celso Caesar Moreno, has a little difficulty with King Kalkaua, and he has written the King an open letter on the subject, a copy of which we have received. He has fruitlessly demanded payment for the sums he spent in the education of three Hawaiian youths in Italy in 1880, the King, "at the instigation of his Guizo," the criminal Mormon, a Minister, whose name is given, "having remained deaf, dumb and blind" to the dictates of justice, duty, gratitude and honour. The King has often advised him to write to the Minister and get paid, but this, he says, "I decline for the single reason that I do not wish to dishonour myself by entering into written correspondence (*verba fuggiunt (sic) et scripta manent*) with an escaped convict loaded with crimes, whose most proper place is on the reef (State prison of Honolulu) for life, and not in the Ministry, where this malcontent is an unpardonable outrage and provocation to public opinion, to public decency, to public decency and to public morality." Thus bad begins, but worse remains behind. Three pages are filled with abuse of this Minister, who is characterised, *inter alia*, as "the most venal and depraved villain ever landed on the shores of the Hawaiian islands. . . whose life is an uninterrupted career and a fountain of falsehood and felony, and the proclivity to delinquency is his second nature." Not only does the Minister refuse to pay Mr. Moreno's bill, but he has opposed his trans-pacific cable, but he is only one of the many who are leading the King to destruction. All the Hawaiian courtiers, except the author of the letter, are as bad as they can be. The present state of things, says Mr. Moreno, "appears to be a put-up job upon the smallest of Kings (Kalkaua) to play the smallest, the most unkingly, and most undignified part on the political stage of the world like a docile puppet in the hands of a perfidious and perennal Mormon delinquent and of a Jew grocer, whose supreme object and ambition is *auri sacra fames*. By the blundering choice of dishonourable men for honourable places, the affection, esteem, and respect of the thinking men of Hawaii and abroad has been alienated from your Majesty, beside the risk of being ostracised from the brotherhood of Kings, and being considered a small parvenu, without ambition, without self-respect, and without ancestry, nor *cachet*." Even the two gentlemen who accompanied King Kalkaua on his visit to Shanghai are not spared. "The severe lesson of gossiping barber, Neven Armstrong, and coarse butcher, Kalabash Judd, as companions in the fiasco voyage round the world, should have opened forever the eyes of Your Majesty." The eight pages of abuse end with a reiterated demand for money, and a pious hope for "the last of the Kings of Hawaii." As a mine of Billingsgate it is really valuable.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* of the 25th ult. says:—News was received in town this morning to the effect that the British steamer *Soochow*, Captain Watt, had gone ashore on Cape Cami, but was not making any water. The *Soochow* left here for Hoihow and Pakhoi on the 17th inst. and must have been on her return voyage when the accident took place.—This *Soochow* is a small steamer of 313 tons running between Hongkong and Pakhoi and Hoihow.

Yesterday morning, says the *Daily Press* of the 22nd ultimo, Admiral Rieuinier, lately in command of the French Squadron in these waters, left here for Marseilles by the M.M. steamer *Océanien*. When he embarked a salute was fired by the frigate *Turenne*, and one by the *Victor Emanuel*. Upon Rear-Admiral Layrle assuming command he was saluted by the *Victor Emanuel*, to which the *Turenne* replied. In the afternoon Admiral Layrle landed officially and was received by a guard of honour from the Northamptonshire Regiment with the Band, a salute being fired from the shore battery, and proceeded to Government House to call on His Excellency the Acting Governor.

The *China Mail* mentions that a rumour of doubtful credibility was prevalent in Canton, that the wreck of the *Unbeikan* had been found on the east coast of Formosa.

A correspondent of the *Daily Press*, writing from Yokohama on the 9th February, says that the sum to be paid by Japan to China, on account of the Nagasaki riots, is he believes \$50,000. Of this he says it is rumoured that China will hand back \$15,000, for the relatives of the Japanese who were killed in the riots. We have reason to believe that Japan will pay, in round figures, about \$40,000 which includes all the medical and hospital expenses for both sides, which it has been agreed are to be paid by Japan.

The *Daily Press* of 22nd Feb. says:—The *Bangkok Times* is glad to hear that Mr. J. M. Fidelis da Costa (Hlung Rajyasadhak) Chief Inspector of Customs, has been honoured by His Majesty the King of Siam with the order of an officer of the Crown of Siam.

The *Avenir de Tonquin* of 11th February says:—The operations of the Delimitation Commission on the north-east frontier are at the present moment, probably in consequence of the action of the Viceroy of Kwangtung, the subject of discussion between the two parties with reference to a small strip of Annamite territory which the Chinese wrongly claim, as is proved most incontestably. In order to avoid anything in the nature of a surprise, the Resident-General has ordered sufficient troops to be maintained on the ground in dispute. If the Chinese are imprudent enough to make an attack, the French are certainly in a position to meet them and face every eventuality, their forces occupying an excellent position supported by artillery. Towards the end of January, after many searches, the head of M. Haïtce, member of the Delimitation Commission, was found, preserved in lime, and was recognised by some of his friends. The head of another Frenchman, whose name is unknown, was found at the same time. The formalities necessary in such cases having been observed, the last honours were paid to the mortal remains of these two brave men on the 25th January. After a low mass, at which there were present Admiral Rieuinier, all the members of the Delimitation Commission, Colonel Dugenne, the officers of the Mong-kay garrison, the 11th battalion of Chasseurs, and the Tongkingese tirailleurs, the Chancellor of the R-sidency, and the seamen of the *Turenne*, the coffins were borne to the cemetery to the north-west of the citadel, the scene of the heroic defence. Over the double grave, M. Dillon, President of the Commission, delivered a most touching address expressing the regret which all present experienced for their beloved companion and for those who had fought with him to the end. Then the Admiral, in a few striking words, full of patriotism, joined in the regret expressed by M. Dillon and the hope which all cherished in their heart. Lieut.-Colonel Tisaeyre, a member of the Commission, rendered homage to the patriotism, the energy, and the bravery of the 11th battalion of Chasseurs-à-pied, several members of which fell by Haïtce's side.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE "NEPAUL"—"WAN-NIEN-CHING"
COLLISION CASE.

THERE is not much to be said on the facts, as these are related in the Judgment, of the action by the owners and others concerned in the transport *Wan-nien-ching* against the British steamship *Nepaul*, belonging to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. The case virtually resolved into the questions whether the *Nepaul* should have been running at all that morning, when the weather was hazy, and whether there was contributory negligence on the part of those on board the transport, after they had heard the whistle of the *Nepaul*. The history of the disaster has been fully told in the Court, and there is therefore no occasion for us to recapitulate it. The Assessors who sat with the Chief Justice, "although doubtful as to whether the *Nepaul* should have weighed anchor at all when she did do so, were clearly of opinion that, considering the state of the weather, and the narrow seas she was moving in, where she might reasonably be expected to fall in with steamers and sailing vessels, both at anchor, and under weigh, was proceeding at an undue rate of speed from the time she first went at half speed until the collision." They, "the Assessors, consider that she ought to have certainly gone slow, or dead slow, and perhaps even have anchored." We imagine there will be a very general concurrence in this opinion. Only strong evidence that there had been carelessness on the part of the *Wan-nien-ching*, which had greatly contributed to the disaster, would have lessened the responsibility of the *Nepaul*, and evidence of this was either wanting or insufficient. Considering the closeness of the two ships to each other when the light of the *Wan-nien-ching* was first seen, and the speed at which the *Nepaul* was going, it is, to say the least, extremely doubtful if the most perfect management of the latter steamer could have averted the collision, had a bell been sounded or a danger signal used. The Assessors advised, and the Chief Justice, agreed with them, that the reversal of the helm, from hard-a-port to hard-a-starboard was an error in judgment on the part of those in charge of the *Nepaul*, and directly caused the collision.

It is not our intention to blame those who navigated the *Nepaul*. At the worst the pilot can only be charged with errors in judgment such as the most skilful and experienced are liable to in a crisis. We believe that this pilot, during the years which he has served the Peninsular and Oriental Company, had never until this collision met with an accident and has not, in words that are attributed to him, ever cost the Company five cents through his misadventure or mistake. Captain Alderton's position as a commander in the P. & O. Company is sufficient guarantee for his competence.

But notwithstanding the skill and experience of these men a very serious accident has occurred through which a vessel and some lives have been sacrificed. The truth is that this accident is mainly attributable to the desire to make good passages. Those of most shipwrecks of steamers which occur on this coast arise from the same cause which brought about the sinking of this Chinese transport. Steamers are run in thick weather when they should be lying in a safe anchorage, and if the evidence given in the course of this trial, as to the local and treacherous character of the fog or haze which so frequently occurs on the coast of China, leads to more carefully considered and cautious instructions being given to commanders of steamers, one good result will have followed from this Judgment. We are not by any means sanguine that anything will be done by owners, who have very likely already given stringent instructions to the commanders and officers of their steamers, in which they are told not to do the very thing, which, when an accident happens, it turns out they have done. What with competition, and the desire to maintain the character of their steamers for making good or fast passages, the instructions not to steam in foggy or thick weather, when they exist, are too often a practically set aside when the captain or pilot thinks he can risk going on. It is said that captains of coast steamers know that they may lose their commands, if through their caution in adhering to what we may call the ironical instructions, they make longer passages than rival steamers whose commanders have run safely through thick weather. It would surely be possible for owners to put an end to this state of things, and if they will not do so voluntarily the insurance offices might in their own interest quicken them into action. And if Chinese owned steamers are sailed under other Regulations and laws than foreign steamers are, we should say that the sooner uniformity in this respect is obtained the better for all.

THE LANDRENTERS' MEETING.

We should require to go a good way probably far back into the history of this Settlement to find a meeting of Landrenters which passed as quietly and quickly as that of Thursday. There was no burning question to excite residents, no deficit requiring that some section of the community should be called on to pay it, there is a general feeling of contentment with the present condition of affairs and a good deal of hope felt that times are about to improve here. All these combined to make the proceedings wonderfully unanimous, as far at least as the financial arrangements for the current year went. The business like statements of the Chairman of the Council epitomised the finances of last year and sufficiently explained the particulars of the Budget for 1887. There was

one omission which may cause inconvenience afterwards. The Chairman did not ask the authority of the Ratepayers to incur expenditure in the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee or during the anticipated visit of Prince Ch'uan. He, undoubtedly, interpreted aright the feeling of the community, when he said at the conclusion of his Budget speech, that he was sure he had only to ask, "to obtain the sanction of the meeting to any steps the Council may deem expedient to take, either of its own initiative, or in response to any invitations addressed to them, to provide for the appropriate celebration of these important events." Had a general credit been asked for to cover the cost of such expenditure as the Council thought fit to incur for these celebrations, there is no doubt it would have been unanimously and heartily given, and it seems a pity that such authority was not obtained. It may be that the appearance of the three Reverend gentlemen who sought to stay the charitable hand of the community, daunted the Chairman, so that he let slip the opportunity of obtaining the formal sanction of the meeting. Even after making the fullest allowance for the sense of duty which prompted these three Ministers to oppose the grant to the French Refuge for orphan, destitute and friendless girls, the reasons for their conduct which they offered have left a painful impression on the community generally. Mr. Dyer was satisfactorily answered by Mr. Maclean, and we need say nothing of his speech. But Dr. Farnham's desire that the children who are now friendless among us should be left uncared for, until they are sunk in wretchedness and vice, so that their condition becomes a shame and scandal sufficiently great to move us to start a similar institution to the French Refuge, was nothing more or less than proposing that the community should do evil that good may come of it. We can imagine the reception this would have met from Dr. Farnham's colleagues, and perhaps from himself, had it been uttered by a member of the Society of Jesus, to the popular notion of whose tenets, it would have appeared perfectly conformable. Fortunately the Ratepayers take a higher view, and like reasonable people make use of an existing establishment in order to discharge at least some of their duty to the unfortunate children who are otherwise friendless. More should have been done, and much more remains to be done, but we see no reason in the deficiencies in our past and present provision for the care of these helpless waifs and strays for our refusing to avail of the means of doing them good which be ready at our hands. Much was said not long ago of the desirability of bringing the missionaries and the community more into contact, in order that Residents might be led to show greater sympathy with the labours of those who are engaged

in converting the Chinese to Christianity. But if the display at the meeting on Thursday is in any great measure a fair representation of the missionary mind, we would ask what prospect is there of reasonable people being drawn into closer connection with protestant missionaries generally? We should be sorry to find that the gentlemen who spoke at meeting represented any considerable number of their colleagues. The few hands which were held up in support of the amendment may, we hope, be taken as indicating the support which it would receive from the community generally. We are glad to learn that, as was mentioned by the proposer of the grant, there is every probability of the establishment of an Institution for poor children being earnestly undertaken, and we trust that it will receive adequate support when the scheme is placed before the public. With the adoption of the Resolution proposed by the Council in the matter of the Soochow Creek, the proceedings terminated.

GOLD MINING IN MANCHURIA.

THE *Peking Gazette* of the 6th and 7th February contains a characteristically energetic Decree from Her Majesty the Empress. The Board of Revenue presented a Memorial in which they requested that certain measures suggested by them should be adopted for securing a supply of copper cash in Peking. These suggestions were meant to supersede the action which the high officials were last year instructed to take for the gradual restoration of the cash to its old basis. The main part of the instructions was that the Governor-General and Governor respectively of Chihli and Kiangsu were to buy additional machinery and engage in the manufacture of standard cash. Those Provinces which are required by law to manufacture standard cash were also called upon to commence operations with all promptitude. It was the duty of the Board of Revenue to see to the execution of these orders, but that department, like a good many of its kindred in other countries than China, preferred old and sluggish ways, which have excited the ire of their Imperial mistress. They are therefore committed to the Board concerned for the determination of a severe penalty; their Memorial is to be thrown back to them with contempt, and they are again called upon to submit, with all despatch, fresh proposals for putting the furnaces in work and arranging for the casting of coinage. A year, and no more, is allowed them for giving full consecutive effect to the measure, and no further delay will be permitted, under pain of punishment. These orders are driven home into the minds of the delinquents by the emphatic "TREMBLE" which closes the Decree. It is highly satisfactory to all who have the welfare of China at heart, that the Empress should hold the officials to the dis-

charge of the duties which she has imposed on them, and the condition of the currency has long been so bad that a reform of it is a pressing necessity. But that part of the Decree which is most notable is where many of the Governors-General and Governors are censured for the perfunctory manner in which they have treated the development of copper and iron mining—probably other ores, as these are mentioned as instances—in, too often, single Memorials to the Throne. Metropolitan and Provincial Officials are severely taken to task for falling into chronic habits of dilatoriness and sloth, and not giving their whole minds to the honest execution of the best expedients for securing the greatest profit from measures which are called for by the exigencies of the times. In this part of the Decree we read the determination of the Empress to develop at least some of the mineral riches of China, and the language used agrees with what we have recently heard of decisions come to by the Cabinet in Peking.

For some time past the Government has been considering the best way of developing the gold workings in Manchuria, and we believe now intend to undertake them. Gold working, washing or mining attracts a rough and violent, and, unless properly restrained, unmanageable people in all parts of the world. In Siberia, where the conditions are in many respects similar to what Manchuria is likely to become with the influx of large numbers of gold hunters, the Russian government has laid down very strict mining laws. These are mainly designed to protect the interests of the Government, including therein the peace of the several mining or gold working districts. The Peking authorities can see or ascertain how gold washing or working is at present carried on in Russian Manchuria, about which we have little information, though we are led to believe that considerable quantities are obtained and sent to St. Petersburg or Moscow. The mining laws of other countries are available for comparison with those of Russia, and with these, and the experience which has been gained from them, the Chinese Government should have no difficulty in framing laws and regulations to suit the circumstances of their miners and territory. It is probable that the development of the Manchurian workings will be solely made by the Government, for it does not seem that it is contemplated to make this over to private enterprise. Old opinions still obtain in official Peking. But it is better for the country that the mineral wealth should be partially, and comparatively speaking imperfectly availed of, than that it should lie utterly useless in the ground. When the Government has seen the advantages which properly conducted mining bestows on the country, they will, in their own way, extend the means by which it will be developed. Modifications, as in Siberia, may be after-

wards, or even at the beginning, adopted. In order to enrich the State it is not necessary that the precious metals should actually be raised by the State. That is an economic belief that has long been exploded, in countries enlightened by modern thought, experience having abundantly shown that private enterprise is much the better agent. The State, or the country, obtains its benefit indirectly, by the increased wealth of some of its subjects, by more lucrative employment being provided for others, and by the impulse which increased resources give to trade and commerce. These advantages will not be foregone by the Government carrying on the Manchurian gold mines or workings; they will only be less quickly and fully reaped by the nation, and now that China has resolved to take mining in hand, she may be trusted to improve her methods in her own time and in her own way. The people of this country and all who have interests in her will be benefited by the new policy, and we hope that its development will be entered upon without those delays which the Empress denounces in her Decree. For, besides the special advantages which gold mining will confer upon the State, it will have others which will specially benefit Manchuria, one of the countries which the Marquis Tseng says "has immense tracts of country which have never felt the touch of the husbandman." Gold mining or working in any way is the most powerful magnet to attract husbandman, artificer, and people of all kinds.

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Times* contributes a long paper on the Chinese Government and Christianity, more especially with reference to the two proclamations, from the Taotais of Ningpo and Shanghai, which appeared in our columns last year. Extracts are given from these documents and they are highly commended, not only by the Correspondent but in a leader in the same number of the *Times*. The Correspondent refers to the Chinese being a people who do not persecute for opinions, persons professing four different forms of faith or sets of doctrines having lived side by side, and the teachers of each having worked in peace for centuries. No man's promotion in the public service is increased or retarded because he is of this or that form of religion; Taoists, Confucianists and Buddhists fill high places, and the instance is mentioned of Ma, a Mahomedan, having been Viceroy of Nanking in quite recent times. The authority of the late Dr. Wells Williams is quoted to show that the Chinese are not cruel or disposed to take life for opinions, when these are held by respectable and intelligent people, and that officials who adopt the Christian faith are not likely to suffer for their conversion, because the officers of the Government all spring from the people, and are

neither influenced nor governed by a State hierarchy. From this the Correspondent argues that such persecution as that in Annam last year was wholly due to political and not to religious causes, and that such outbreaks as that which occurred last summer in Chungking have nothing to do with doctrines, but are to be attributed to the indiscretion or ignorance or arrogance of individual French missionaries. The Annam persecutions sprang from the dread of the people that the missionaries might be the precursors of war and foreign domination as in Cochinchina, the outbreak in Chungking originated in the use by the missionaries of a colour in the decoration of their buildings which had from time immemorial been restricted to the sovereigns alone. The Correspondent quotes from the Ningpo proclamations that "those Chinese who become Christians do not cease to be Chinese, and both sides should therefore live in peace and not let mutual jealousies be the cause of strife between them. The French missionaries claimed exemption for their flocks from all local jurisdiction and taxation, and sought, at one period with some success, to place them under French protection, and these pretensions were the principal cause of their unpopularity." The proposition that converts are still Chinese subjects, owing their duty to their own authorities and to no one else, was enunciated by the Viceroy of Canton in his pungent reply to the French Consul. And it is said by the Correspondent to have been proclaimed throughout the Empire, so that "now ignorant or timid officials know that they will be supported by the authorities in Peking in repudiating the claims of Roman Catholic Missionaries to withdraw converts from the jurisdiction of the native tribunals." And they also know that they are required by Imperial Decree to exercise their authority as well as grant their protection.

As a return for the liberal spirit shown by the Chinese Government, the Correspondent says that it would be well if the heads of the societies at home warned their missionaries out here that Christian missions are now passing through a critical time, during which they cannot exercise too much care in avoiding a collision either with the officials or with the people. A missionary he goes on, must be expected to defend his rights like other men; but there are times when it is wise for a man to suffer a temporary injustice in silence, and to pay this price for a larger benefit in future. This counsel to Protestant missions the Correspondent does not expect to be palatable to their French brethren or rivals, who cannot be expected to sympathise with the Chinese, knowing, as they do, that the ultimate goal of the latter is to deprive them of a power which they have long improperly arrogated. But we should hope that when China has carried into effect the policy with regard

to Catholic missionaries which the French Cabinet frustrated last year, the French missionaries in this country will trust only to their own examples and teaching, and lay aside their pretensions to civil authority over their native converts. Protestant missionaries have, we hope fully, already adopted the quiet policy which the Correspondent suggests that the heads of societies at home should recommend to them. Example, teaching, and patience are the most likely means to make an impression on the stolid civilisation of China, and if they would compose their differences of doctrine they would make more rapid and greater progress with the people. But the manner in which Father Bodinier has been treated by the Tsung-li Yamén may rather modify the raptures of the *Times* over the prospect of China protecting the rights of missionaries. Father Bodinier went to Peking to obtain redress for imprisonment and other injuries inflicted on a Chinese convert named Lo, during last year's outbreak of the Chung-king mob and from the imbecility of the Chinese officials in Szechuen. The circumstances of the case were so special that although the French Minister had resolved to have nothing further to do with missionaries, he telegraphed to Paris and received instructions to do what he could for Lo. He could do nothing. The Tsung-li Yamén simply heard him; they would not redress the wrong which the man and his family had suffered, and thus played into the hands of the French. It is evident from this that the Marquis T'eng, who is a member of the Tsung-li Yamén, from whose enlightened energy so much was expected, has either not exercised his influence or his influence has not been sufficient to move his colleagues out of their old ways. And it may make missionaries less certain than the *Times* and its Correspondent that Chinese officials, even of the highest class, can be depended on to do justice to them. In this case the Yamén should have seen that it was their interest to do justice to Lo, but the members showed their old inappreciation of what was the right course for them to take. Chinese official liberality and freedom from religious bigotry reads very well, but, unfortunately, the habitual delays, if nothing worse, of the rulers often prevents their acting either sensibly or fairly.

THE FRENCH MAIL-PAPERS.

In a sensible article the *Saturday* considers the political situation after the acceptance of office by Mr. Goschen and the announcement that a Conference of Liberals—a meeting that should make amends for all the hard things Chamberlain said of Harcourt and Morley of Trevelyan—would be held. Of the former the writer says:

He, Mr. Goschen, is at least as sincere a partisan of rational retrenchment as Lord Randolph can be. But, having had a little more financial and administrative experience than his impulsive predecessor, he probably perceives that to attempt to reform the departments by cutting down

the Estimates is an eminent and almost curiously felicitous instance of beginning at the wrong end. By reforming the departments it is not only possible, but certain, that the Estimates may be reduced; by reducing the Estimates off hand the defence of the nation suffers, and, as far as the mere reduction goes, the departments remain unreformed. This Mr. Goschen very well knows, and his acceptance (which is implied in his acceptance of office) of the estimate which Lord Salisbury's Cabinet has made of the necessities of the national defence is equivalent to an audit of their accounts. Some recent appointments to the office, as well as some not recent, have somewhat disjoined the two ideas of financial knowledge and Chancellorship of the Exchequer in the public mind. In Mr. Goschen's case they will have to be reunited.

As regards the Conference, the *Saturday* does not think that much can come of it or that Mr. Chamberlain would survive a surrender of the doctrine of the sovereignty of Parliament in Ireland, while Mr. Gladstone would lose least, by modifying his opinions to suit those of his Liberal opponents, as his English and Scotch followers are evidently prepared to follow him through as many tergiversations as he chooses. It recognizes that the acceptance of office by Mr. Goschen and the circumstances which led to it, have excited, both in the Separatists and in a minority of the Unionists a kind of flutter of feeling, which may, perhaps, rather possibly than probably lead to attempts at reconciliation. Meanwhile, without accepting the highly coloured pictures of the scenes at Irish evictions as true, it is evident that Ireland, in January last, was in a most disordered state and needed more governing than in the late dark years. And a rumour had obtained wide currency in London that the Irish Secretary, Sir Michael Hicks Beach had "gone over" to Home Rule, as Lord Carnarvon, the last Tory Lord Lieutenant, went over, obtained circulation in political circles before the mail left home. This may be merely club gossip, but it is indicative of a fear on the part of those who would keep things in Ireland as they are, merely doing something for decency's sake, to abate discontent, that an intimate knowledge of affairs there leads to nationalism. And this, we take to be pretty certain, that the number of converts to Home Rule among Englishmen will go on increasing unless the Salisbury Cabinet passes a broad measure of self-government. The political history of England shows that when opportunities of passing moderate measures have been missed, the result has always been that very wide sweeping measures have been forced on Parliament. An interesting article on "the Chancellorship of the Exchequer and the Leadership of the House of Commons," deals with the history of that office since it rose into its present political consequence, which has only come about in late years. "Cavalry Remounts" gives a good deal of information on the supply of horses, which is made more than usually interesting by recent telegrams from Europe. The writer does not take pessimist views of the ability of England to supply numbers of horses for her cavalry and artillery, and supports his opinion by recounting what took place, when, during one of our war scares, the Government advertised that it would be a public buyer of horses.

Most of us can remember the rush there was. True it is that the opportunity was hailed as the moment for getting rid of every specimen of equine infirmity, but it is equally true that very few of the unsound or incapable passed the keen scrutiny of the twin experts; and the upshot was that in a very short space of time the required complement of sound, serviceable horses was found, bought, and delivered—e.g. Lord Arthur Somerset, who was one of the Government buyers, sent up eight hundred horses from his district of Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, Gloucester, Monmouth, and South Wales. On another occasion of supposed war emergency,

our Government, it is true, sent officers to Hungary to buy the little hardy Hungarian horses, which are excellent for driving long distance in light carriages, but utterly unfit to carry an English hussar, who, with arms, accoutrements, kit, and three days' forage, rides on an average about eighteen stone; yet at that very time French officers were buying in England and Ireland good cavalry horses which would have suited us admirably. On so large a scale were these purchases that for over two months six hundred horses per week were sent from the Thames to France!

The *Spectator* has not been received. There are some interesting articles in the *Pall Mall Budget*, and those who like to know something of the personality of public men—and who does not—will find good accounts given of Sir Henry Holland, the new Colonial Secretary and much more about the late Lord Iddesleigh. A statement of the performances of the Greyhounds of the Atlantic gives the speed of the different liners. The cracks of each of these are—

Cunard, <i>Etruria</i>	17.
Guion, <i>Alaska</i>	16.3
Anchor, <i>City of Rome</i>	16.3
National, <i>America</i>	15.7
White Star, <i>Germanic</i>	14.9
Inman, <i>City of Berlin</i>	13.7

These all ply between New York and Queenstown, a distance of 2,820 nautical miles. The German Lloyd's fastest steamer, between Southampton and New York, is the *Trave* which made 16.5. We should have drawn attention before to the remarkable illustrations of Homer, by a boy of twelve; those in this number are boyishly humorous, very clever and quite up to those in former numbers. *Punch* should keep his eye on this youngster.

The *St. James's* is scarcely up to the average this week, but those who have read Lady John Manners' article on Massage.—Shampooing as in India and China—will find more on the subject and on the "Movement Cure," as practised in Persia. Massage, or grasp-kneading, is the comfort and luxury of every class in the East and Lady John Manners wishes to see its curative properties more appreciated at home. "Persia and the Persians" by Mr. Benjamin, late United States Minister to Persia, is according to the *Athenaeum* a fairly instructive work, but the author has a tendency to hyperboles, which is a curious charge to bring against an American writer. The other reviews are not of much interest. There are a number of notes and queries relating to the early life of Mr. Thackeray, which are the sort of stuff he would have turned into ridicule. The *Literary Gossip* is full this week, but the only notes likely to interest people here are these.—The February number of the *Atlantic Monthly* will contain a long poem by Mr. James Russell Lowell, which is likely to attract attention for its bearing on Darwinism, and its half-protest against some of the tendencies of the Darwinian teaching.—The marked success of St. Paul's School, as judged both by the number of boys and the achievements of the school at Oxford and Cambridge, is worthy of notice. Within the past two months the first Balliol scholarship, two Major, and three other scholarships at Trinity, Cambridge; the first scholarships at Trinity, Oxford, and Caius, Cambridge; with five or six others, including two for natural sciences, have been carried off by Paulines, who thus take the lion's share of university scholarships for the present year.—The two volumes of the 'Greville Memoirs' to be published next week conclude the work.

REVIEWS.

The China Review—Nov.-Dec., 1886.

THE latest issue of the *China Review* is a decidedly dull number, though an attempt is made to lighten it in the first article, the conclusion of Mr. Playfair's amusing hoax,

"The Bombardment of Pakhoi, an unrecorded episode of 1882." This is followed by Mr. Oxenham's continuation of his "Chips from Chinese History." It is no doubt a useful exercise for sinologists to take up a portion of Chinese history and translate it, but these fragments of the annals of China are of little interest to the general reader. They may save the future historian of China the trouble of consulting and translating the originals, but they are very dull reading. One of the most noticeable things in these annals is the vast amount of platitudes that do duty for philosophy in China, and make us wonder that Mr. M. F. Tupper's great work has never been translated into Chinese. "Wang is ceremoniously allowed to retire. Such politeness was entirely misplaced. Wang had deceived his prince and brought ruin on his country, and thoroughly deserved punishment. Inconsistency like this is as fatal to a nation, as is the giddiness caused by want of perspiration to a man with a chill." "A nation destitute of beggars has many births; a Court without sinecures has few to feed; do not employ the people at harvest time, balance the receipts and expenses, and wealth will be ample, and comfort general." "The whole of mankind must know that extravagance dissipates wealth and injures the people; a lover of his people should be preeminently economical if he would save himself much anxiety." It is from heaps like this that censors and magistrates draw the dry husks which they present to the throne and the people in their memorials and proclamations.

Presuming that Dr. Eitel's paper on "The Law of Testamentary Succession as popularly understood and applied in China" is correct in its facts, it should be a very valuable article. The general drift of it is that Chinese law does not recognise at all such "wills" as we understand by that term, but that there is a custom having the force of law as to the distribution of the property of the deceased which no written testament would be allowed to override. "Chinese law knows no person, no personal rights, no personal property, but only the family, family rights, family property; and the devolution of such rights (and duties) and of such property is not left to the judgment of any individual, but unalterably fixed by statute law." The man whom we should call the owner of any property, hereditary or acquired, has really in law only a life interest in that property, and when he dies the law provides who shall succeed him, without any regard to his wishes. It is a penal offence for a father to disinherit his eldest son, and the only way in which this can be done is by the father's calling a family council, and having his son declared incorrigibly unfilial, in which case recourse may be had to a Court, for authority to imprison him for life, or even bury him alive, a proceeding which, to Dr. Eitel's knowledge, is freely resorted to in South China. There was a case in Hongkong not long ago, on the very border of the Settlement, in which an incorrigible of this kind was ceremoniously killed by his relatives, after a family council. Another unassailable maxim in Chinese law is that "the son pays the father's debts." "If any father has debts which he cannot pay, and if his son has any means to pay them, the latter can be made to pay his father's debts, under Chinese law." Such a phenomenon of higher civilisation as a well-to-do son allowing his own father to go to the workhouse would be impossible in China. Mr. Herbert Allen follows with an attack on early Chinese history, and gives his reasons for doubting the antiquity of the Chinese nation, and the authenticity of their annals before the fifth century B.C. "The whole question," he says, "of the authenticity of early Chinese history and classics requires to be further investigated, and it is to be hoped

that some of our noted sinologists will take it up." But there is surely little doubt about the date of Confucius, or that he regarded the Empire as having passed its prime in his days, and constantly regretted the good old days. Mr. Allen is too sweeping, and it is difficult to believe that "all the ancient history was invented" about B.C. 104. It would be impossible to impose their history on a people wholesale, though the length of reigns and the importance of occurrences may be gradually exaggerated. Dr. Chalmers and Mr. Playfair contribute two useful papers on Chinese spelling, and Dr. Ekins an interesting article on the *Ming t'ang* or Hall of Light, of which he is honest enough to say that "scholars, when discussing it, meet to wrangle like persons disputing in a law court." Messrs. Pearce and Stewart-Lockhart continue their Enigmatic Parallels of the Canton Dialect. We find in them that a worthless man is called "a cannon without trunnions;" a person whose words belie his acts "an eyeless needle;" a man generally hated "a dead child in a canal;" a thief "a three handed man," which reminds us of the omnibus thief in London who used to have an artificial arm crossed harmlessly on his lap, while he picked his neighbour's pocket with his real arm. A father who saves for his son to spend is called "the ink," while the son is "the pen" which dips into it. A skin-flint is called "an iron pear," or it is said that he busies himself "spitting shrimps eggs" or "boring sesamum seeds." In fact there seems to be no end to the witty metaphors used by the Cantonese; many of them being plays on the shape of the characters used, as well as on their sound. To the Notes and Queries Mr. J. Dyer Ball sends more than one amusing anecdote; and Mr. Playfair attacks with much sarcasm, and many sneers at rustics and apothecaries, Mr. Parker's recent list of Canton plants. Mr. Parker contributes eight pages of notes duly sprinkled with Chinese characters, which he holds that the editor ought to translate. We have already referred to the review of Dr. Fritzsche's Chronology.

"The Bamboo Tree."

Mrs. Clement Allen, with the assistance of her husband, the British Consul at Amoy, has published, originally for the delight of their two children at home, a charming little book on "John Chinaman's Bamboo Tree." The foundation of the book is an anonymous poem, in more or less accurate pigeon-English, setting forth the numerous uses of this indispensable plant, and Mrs. Allen has illustrated this poem with a series of admirably-drawn and exceedingly characteristic sketches of life in China. The local colour in the book is derived from Mr. Allen's former post, Pakhoi, or, as Mr. Allen prefers to write it, Pakhoi; and the whole life of the Pakhoi is brought before us in this clever series. Some of the sketches are, of course, better than others, but Mrs. Allen always succeeds in hitting off the natives and some of her sketches of them are very natural and clever. For instance, the groups of children on pages 26 and 27 are very charming; the faces of the children are perhaps hardly Chinese enough, but their expressions and the grouping are very attractive. All the landscapes are excellent. Though primarily intended for a children's book, Mrs. Allen's work will be much prized by the "children of a larger growth," to whom it is also commended in the preface.

Outport.

PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The last Thursday evening dancing party of the season took place on the 27th at the French Legation when the entire diplomatic

and social world of Peking was present. I observed that His Excellency the Marquis Ts'eng graced, for a short time, the gay assembly with his presence, accompanied by his French interpreter. Everybody is busy getting ready for the Fancy Dress Ball at the German Legation on Feb. 14th. The Chinese New Year holidays have come in rather awkwardly, as they interfere with the preparations. It is snowed, and not only have the Emperor's prayers been answered, but also his thanks for the previous fall of snow by a second and lighter fall. The wheat harvest should be a good one. Things seem clearing and improving all round, weather included.

The dances at the French and the United States Legations are over for this season, and the British and the Russian Legations now take their turn.

The Foreign Ministers paid their New Year calls at the Tsung-li Yamén, when His Excellency Herr von Brandt, proposed the health of their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress, in a fitting speech, in the course of which he referred to the copious fall of snow, viewing it as an omen of peace and prosperity to the country. The Marquis Ts'eng replied in suitable terms.

The Emperor ascended the Throne yesterday, and to-day there is to be eclipse of the Moon (in honour of the occasion?) and one of the Sun, it is said, on the 22nd, which unfortunately will not be visible here, so that it seems as if the heavenly bodies are, in their courses, moved by the event. The last Emperor died on the occasion of the Transit of Venus. What is a more tangible augury of good for both Empires, is the settlement of the Nagasaki riot question on the terms of a well-known Beaconsfieldian phrase. The feast of Lanterns has passed and now the Chinese will settle down to the toil of another year. The seals of office will be opened on the 21st. A grand entertainment took place the other night at the British Legation, the cotillion being gone through in excellent style. Almost all Peking Society was present on the occasion and took part in it. The weather is simply perfection; we do not remember a winter like this one, bright, and quite free from our two enemies, wind and dust.

A meeting of the Oriental Society was held in the Library of the Netherlands Legation on the evening of the 31st January, to hear a long and elaborate paper from Dr. Edkins on the evolution of the Chinese language. There was a good sprinkling of ladies present.

Dr. Edkins commenced with an explanation of three sheets of characters, written large for exhibition. Each column represented derivatives from one root. The foot and inch are both derived from the hand, as is the demonstrative pronoun in its many forms. Derivation is conducted by changing the initial letter or putting in an aspirate. The roots have labial initials. The derivations have dental and guttural initials. Labial letters had the priority on account of their advantage in visibility. The lips were much used in gesture and it was an easy transition for them to be extensively used in early word-making. The reader of the paper proceeded to show that the hand had much to do in the early formation of words, and that, in proportion to its flexibility and power of pointing in every direction was its usefulness in the first stages of language. The hand originated not only the demonstrative, but the substantive verb, and the negative as well as the adjectives which signify before and behind and right and left. The name *Shou* now in use is derived from an old labial root the traces of which remain in *po* thumb and *po* or *pei* arm. Probably there was a labial period, a dental period, and a guttural period, before the invention of writing, each lasting for some centuries. The invention of writing, according to tradition B. C. 2,500, was followed by the tones period which has lasted to the present

time. During these 4,000 years the tones have been evolved one from one another at a slow rate of progress, and they have always been increasing in number by subdivision. As it was with the tones since B. C. 2,500 so by parity of reasoning it would be with the vowels and consonants before that epoch. They would be evolved one out of another, beginning with those formed by the lips and proceeding through the mouth to those formed at the opening to the throat. The close of the glacial period appears to be a convenient epoch for the commencement of the Chinese language. The fossil remains hitherto discovered give reliable evidence of man's presence on the earth up to that time, that is, but no higher. Such is the opinion of Sir James W. Dawson, President of the British Association for this year. He makes the glacial period terminate about 7,000 years ago in the temperate zone, basing his conclusion upon the fossil remains hitherto discovered which show that man lived on the earth since but not before that date. He determines it by the rate of erosion of the glacial deposits at the Falls of Niagara. While the hand and the foot with various natural sounds assisted the human voice in making words and building up grammars and vocabularies, it was the soul, a special gift from God, which held the controlling and imitating power during the wonderful processes connected with the formation of language. The same gift of reason on the one hand made man a moral and religious being, and on the other endowed him with the capacity to construct first, language, and, afterwards, literature, science the civilised arts and philosophy. A brief discussion followed, but Dr. Edkins has made himself such a master of the subject that it is difficult to add anything to his paper or controvert his opinions. But Dr. Martin pointed out that the word *chung*, for bell-clock was pronounced *peng* in Shansi being a change from guttural to labial. Mr. Arendt thought conjecture was taken for proof in the paper; Dr. Blodget could not go with the writer of the paper, but had been indebted to Dr. Edkins for many philological suggestions, and Mr. Ferguson approved of applying the Darwinian method to philology, while Dr. Dudgeon congratulated the author on the enthusiasm he had brought to the subject, but was afraid there was danger in enthusiasm, and objected to the labial evolution of the language founded on its visibility, and was inclined to trace the early labial sounds of all animals to the facility with which they could be enunciated, mentioning at the same time that the early labial cry was for nourishment. He criticised the lecturer's assumption of an early labial character, now lost, for the hand, which must have been used so extensively in the earliest times. He was astonished to find so many sounds with such a similarity of idea, having different radicals, and thought too much philosophy had been introduced into the early formation of the language, instancing the cry of the deaf and dumb which was guttural and not labial. He quoted an amusing incident relating to the use of the foot as an indicator.

8th February.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

January 27th and 28th—(1) A Decree directing the Imperial College of Inscriptions to prepare tablets for six temples in Szechuen, the presiding deities of which have manifested their divine interposition in a marked manner in answer to prayers for deliverance from drought, flood, and pestilence. The Board of Ceremonies are directed to consider the propriety of investing the deities of four of these temples with a special honorary title, as requested

by the Governor-General of the Province. In a second Decree a similar tablet is ordered to be prepared for suspension in a temple to a canonised worthy in the Hsi-ch'ung District of Szechuen, whose influence has been most efficacious when prayed to by the officials and gentry to procure rain in seasons of drought. The Board of Ceremonies are likewise to consider the propriety in this case of bestowing an honorary title upon the saint.

(2) His Majesty announces his intention of accompanying Her Majesty the Empress on a pilgrimage to the Western Mausolea on the 7th of the 3rd moon (March 30th). On the 3rd of April sacrifice will be offered at the mausoleum of Tao Kuang and the attendant ceremonies performed, after which the Imperial party will return to the palace, which will be reached on the 8th of April. The various Yamé's concerned are called upon reverently to make preparations accordingly.

(3) A Memorial from the Governor of Hunan, reporting the trial of an individual who, under the impression that he was the victim of a wrong, travelled to Peking and appealed to the Emperor last spring during his journey to the Imperial Mausolea.—The man, whose name was Wang Ta-kuei, was handed over, as is customary, to the Board of Punishments for rigorous interrogation, and he then stated that he came from Shih-mén Hsien in Hunan, and had been induced in his extremity to come to Peking and appeal to the Emperor for redress against one Chang Ching-ch'uan, who had seduced his wife and stolen her from him. The man was duly sentenced to receive a hundred blows and to be banished to a near frontier, which is the penalty for appealing to the Emperor while on a journey; and the Board wrote to say his petition would not have been dealt with under ordinary circumstances, but, as he had brought charges of bribery and corruption against certain official underlings, and nothing but a searching enquiry would satisfy the man's mind, he was sent, with his petition, to the Memorialist with a request that he would go thoroughly into the case. If the man's story proved to be true, sentence was to be carried out as passed by the Board. If other facts transpired, he was to be sentenced to a still more severe punishment. A trial of the case was duly held before the provincial judge, and, an award having been given, it was sent on to the Memorialist for verification. The following are the facts as elicited after thorough examination of the parties: Wang Ta-kuei, who live at Shih-mén Hsien, took to wife some years ago a girl called Liu Chuan-ku, who bore him sons and daughters. Liu Chuan-ku was not a good-tempered person, and was for ever turning on her husband for the merest trifle. One of these frequent conjugal quarrels occurred in the month of September, 1883, and Liu Chuan-ku went off in a rage to her mother's house, from which she absolutely refused to return to her husband's home, though he came many times to fetch her. A friend of his wife's brother, called Chang Ch'ing-ch'uan, was constantly at the house of his mother-in-law, and Wang Ta-kuei got it into his head that there was an improper intimacy between his wife and her brother's friend. He taxed his mother-in-law with this, but she denied the charge, and lodged a petition against Wang at the magistracy, charging him with cruelty towards her daughter. This was met by a counter claim from Wang, who accused his mother-in-law of aiding and abetting his wife in adulterous intercourse with Chang Ch'ing-ch'uan. The parties were duly summoned before the magistrate, who found that both charge and countercharge were untrue, and he ordered Wang's mother-in-law to send her daughter back to her husband's home, which she was not again to leave for her mother's house on frivolous pretexts. Bonds were given accepting this decision, and the case was

closed accordingly; but Liu Chuan-ku was so indignant with her husband for dragging her good name through the mire that she refused to live with him, and cut her hair off, roaring that she would become a nun, and would never go back to her husband's house. Wang Ta-kuei then became more jealously suspicious than ever, and made sure that this was a plan of Chang Ch'ing-chuan's to get possession of his wife. He accordingly determined to appeal at Peking, and as he thought his story would be unlikely to secure a hearing if he adhered to the simple facts, he embellished it with a number of fictitious statements about compulsion and bribery, introducing the names of certain persons against whom he owed a grudge for espousing the cause of his wife and his mother-in-law. The penalty for making these false charges against Chang Ch'ing-chuan and his wife would be that to which Chang would have rendered himself liable if they were true, viz., banishment in the minor degree; but as the penalty awarded for appealing to His Majesty is heavier, this will be inflicted on Wang Ta-kuei. The penalty to which Liu Chuan-ku's wife, has been sentenced is 100 blows, with the usual commutation, as she is a woman. This penalty is awarded under the law which lays down that any woman who, against her husband's wish, cuts her hair off with intent to become a nun and runs away from him with that object, shall receive 100 blows with the heavy bamboo. There being nothing against Chang Ch'ing-chuan, he has been released.—*Referred to the Board of Punishments.*

January 29th and 30th.—(1) A Decree acknowledging the receipt of a report from the Governor of Ch'ekiang who was directed to investigate certain charges against a Taotai Ma Ssu-liang, in charge of the salt guild of Ch'ekiang. This officer was accused of being in league with certain Anhui merchants to increase the weight of the packages and so pass more salt than they paid duty for; also of helping them to sell salt beyond the area to which they were restricted, of forcing up prices, and of resisting payment of duties. He was further charged with indulging in drinking orgies at which female singers were introduced, of gambling, and of making money out of lawsuits. These accusations have proved to be unfounded; but the enquiries instituted have elicited the discovery that the Taotai was in the habit of visiting merchants at their private houses, herein showing an incapacity to appreciate the duty of keeping himself aloof from any action that might give rise to unfavourable criticism. In accordance with the Governor's suggestion Ma Ssu-liang is committed to the board for the determination of a minor penalty.

(2) A Decree ordering tablets to be prepared for three temples in Szechuen, the deities of which have manifested their divine interposition in answer to prayers for deliverance from drought, famine, and pestilence.

(4) The whole of the remainder of this day's issue is occupied with a Memorial from the Governor-General at Canton reporting on the case of disputed water rights in the Shun-tê District, which was brought to His Majesty's notice by the Censor Ho Ch'ung-kuang whose father was an interested party in the dispute (see *Gazette* of January 13th and 19th). The Memorial, which is to be continued in the next issue, is much too complicated to admit of an intelligible summary. The details, moreover, are uninteresting.

January 31st and February 1st.—The Court Circular of the 31st of January publishes a report from the Governor of the Metropolitan Prefecture, announcing a fall of snow in Peking to the depth of three inches and upwards.

(1) A Memorial from the Board of Civil Office reporting the decision they have

come to with regard to the penalty to which the Censor Wei Nan-hsiang has rendered himself liable in consequence of the language employed by him in his Memorial denouncing the Governor of Peking for want of due reverence, as displayed by his delay in presenting himself at the Temple of Agriculture to take delivery of the sacrificial grain (see *Gazette* of 4th January). The offence of which the Censor has been guilty is "grave misdemeanour committed in a personal capacity," the penalty for which is deprivation of three steps of rank with removal to another post. They accordingly request that Wei Nan-hsiang may receive the above punishment.—Sanctioned by Decree earlier issued.

(2) The same board further report that the penalty to which Liu-fên, compiler of the Hanlin, has rendered himself liable for leaving his post without permission, is deprivation of two steps of rank with removal to another post (see *Gazette* of 17th January).

With the exception of a Decree ordering the confiscation of the property of certain local officials in Kiangsi, whose accounts show deficits which they have failed to make good after repeated pressure, those who are still alive being imprisoned until payment is made, the remainder of this issue is occupied with the continuation of the memorial from the Governor-General at Canton on the subject of the disputed water privileges in the Shun-tê District of that province.

February 2nd and 3rd.—The Court Circular of February 3rd announces that His Majesty will take his seat in the T'ai Ho Throne Hall at 6.30 a.m. on the 4th, and after inspecting the "Prayer" and entering his name thereon will return to the Palace to conduct business and give audience to the Grand Council. At 9 a.m. he will go to the Temple of Heaven by way of the Ch'eng-yang gate, and enter the Hall of Fasting preparatory to praying for a fruitful harvest.

(1) The Board of Civil Office submit the decision they have come to with regard to the penalties to which the Acting Governor of Kueichow has rendered himself liable for making unauthorised use of a *K'an-ho*, or government warrant, when sending the remains of his wife back to their native place. The law lays down that when Governors-General or Governors have occasion to send Memorials to the Throne, or transmit messages, etc., of a public nature, they shall in every instance fill in a *K'an-ho* or *hwo-pai* issued by the Board of War, but that the penalty for using these forms and obtaining government porters or animals for private purposes, or issuing such warrants to their official servants or members of their household, shall be deprivation of two steps of rank with removal to another post (see *Gazette* of January 13th).

(2) A sub-memorial from the Governor-General of Yunnan and Kueichow soliciting His Majesty's sanction to the offering of spring and autumn sacrifices by the local authorities at a memorial temple to the victims of the Mohammedan rebellion in 1857 at place called Mi-tu Ting in the jurisdiction of Ta-li Fu. This town was captured by the rebels in 1857, and several tens of thousands of people—officials, gentry, soldiers and people, with their women folk—were murdered, being all buried in a large pit outside the east gate of the town. When order was restored, enquiries were made, and a list of the names of the victims was drawn up and submitted to the Throne, with a prayer for permission to erect an honorary portal to the victims, and to place them on the list of those to whom sacrifice was to be offered. This prayer was granted by Imperial Decree in January, 1876, and a temple and portal have been promised by the gentry of the place, who request that the fact may be reported to the Throne, with a prayer for permission to be given for the

offering of official libations thereat.—Granted by Rescript.

February 4th and 5th.—(1) A Decree granting tablets to four temples in Shensi, the deities of which have been responsive to prayers for rain.

(2-3) The Memorial from the Censor Ho Ch'ung-kuang, surreptitiously pushing his father's interests in the matter of a dispute about an embankment in the Shun-tê District of Kuangtung, and the Memorial from the Board of Civil Office, submitting the penalty to which the censor has thereby rendered himself liable. (See *Gazette* of January 13th, 19th, 29th, and 31st.)

(4) A Memorial from the Governor-General Li Hung-chang submitting a list of subscriptions raised for him by various provincial high authorities in aid of the sufferers by flood in the Chihli province. The following is a list of the high authorities named, with the amounts personally subscribed by some and the totals collected by each:—

	Personal contribution.	Total collected.
Governor-General, Nanking .....	.....	35,000
" Canton	1,000	22,000
" Szechuen	1,000	15,000
" Hukwang	1,000	.....
Governor, Hupeh	1,000	.....
do. Ch'ekiang .....	.....	12,000
do. Kiangsu	3,000	8,000
do. Anhui	1,000	10,000
do. Hunan .....	.....	3,000
do. Kiangai .....	.....	3,000

Although the high officers named were unwilling that the Memorialist should bring their patriotic and sympathetic conduct to the notice of His Majesty, the Memorialist none the less feels that it would be inexpedient that it should not be reported, and he must leave it to His Majesty to say whether these governors-general and governors can or cannot have liberal forms of distinction bestowed upon them.—By a Rescript appended to the Memorial the high authorities named are committed to the Board for the determination of a liberal form of reward.

6th and 7th February.—Prince Ch'ün returns thanks for the bestowal on his son of an Imperial Dukedom of the fourth degree by special Decree from the Empress published in this issue of the *Gazette*.

The Court Circular of the 6th of February announces that His Majesty will repair at 4 a.m. on the 7th (the 15th of the moon) to the Ta Kao Tien and Shou Huang Tien to perform the usual ceremonies; at 7 a.m. he will go to the apartments of the Empress and make obeisance; at 9 a.m. he will take his seat in the T'ai Ho Throne Hall and receive congratulations; and at 11 a.m. he will take his seat in the Poa Ho Throne Hall and preside at a banquet. A banquet will be given to the Ministers of the Court at noon to-morrow.

(1) A Decree from Her Majesty the Empress.—The Board of Revenue have presented a memorial requesting that all the provinces along the river and on the sea-board may be required to convert into cash currency a certain portion, to be determined upon, of the subsidies they have to remit to Peking, and to send this cash to Tientsin, there to be stored in readiness for use. Their Memorial is accompanied by a memorandum which is submitted for perusal.

In the 6th moon of last year, We directed I-huan, Prince Ch'ün, to take the question of the system of cash coinage into careful consideration, in conjunction with the members of the Grand Council and the Boards of Revenue and Works, with a view to its gradual restoration to the old basis. In due course they submitted a Memorial in which they requested that three years might be allowed in which to compass a steady restoration, and that the Governor-General and Governor respectively of Chihli and Kiangsu might first be called upon to buy additional machinery and engage in the manufacture of standard cash. Further, that those provinces which were required by law to manufacture

standard cash should one and all be called upon to commence operations with all promptitude. Action was thereupon ordered to be taken in compliance with the above requests, and these being matters the conduct of which was entrusted to those concerned under special Decree, was it not their duty to set to work with genuine energy in order to achieve successful results? The Board of Revenue is the focus to which the coinage system converges, and it was naturally their duty to take the lead in urging the various provinces concerned to set to work conscientiously in considering plans of operation. And yet, after more than half-a-year has elapsed, they suddenly assert that the capital required for machinery and manufacture will be too large, and that the opening of cash foundries in the metropolitan mint is likely to cause suspicion and uneasiness in the public market. They accordingly make the request that Hupeh and other provinces may be called upon to send with their subsidies a certain amount of cash to Tientsin to be in readiness for use. The said Board never consulted with Prince Ch'un and the rest but gave reckless heed to the statements of provincial high authorities and, with them, tried to get rid of the obligations imposed upon them, to such shallow and perfunctory subterfuges did they resort! The earlier Memorial dealt very explicitly with the question of the partial use of the *fang shih*, or metropolitan cash, in connection with the resumption of *chih ch'ien*, or standard cash. How comes it that directly the furnaces for the casting of this cash are set going clamour will arise in the markets? Such expressions as these aggravate the impropriety of which the Board has been guilty. Considerations of state economy have occupied attention of late. The development of copper and iron mining, for instance, is putting the natural resources of the country to a practical use, and yet the Governors-General and Governors concerned have on many occasions acquitted themselves in a perfunctory manner by disposing of the subject in a single Memorial to the Throne, in which they state that the "matter is attended with many difficulties." Officials, metropolitan and provincial, are falling into chronic habits of dilatoriness and sloth, and do not give their whole minds to the consideration, or themselves to the honest execution, of the best expedients for securing the greatest profit, measures that are called forth by the exigencies of the times. More than this; they think that under a pretext of working tentatively they will prepare the way beforehand for getting quit of their responsibilities at a future date. Such confirmed habits as these are deserving of the deepest detestation. In sum, the old system will positively have to be restored, and the cash coinage must promptly be re-organised. Injunctions in this sense have been repeatedly issued, and yet the heads of the department concerned are unable to identify themselves with the intention of the Court to enrich the State and benefit the people, and they make up pretexts for putting off what they should do. In this they are guilty of grave dereliction of the duties entrusted to them, and we command that the chiefs of the Board of Revenue be committed to the board concerned for the determination of a severe form of penalty. Their Memorial will be thrown back to them with contempt, and they are again called upon to submit with all despatch fresh proposals for putting the furnaces in work and arranging for the casting of coinage. One year will be allowed for giving full and consecutive effect to the measure, and no further delay will be permitted under pain of punishment—Tremble!

(2) A Decree announcing His Majesty's intention, in conformity with the precedents set in the reigns of Hsien Feng and Tao Kuang, to visit the Feng Hsien Tien,

or Imperial Ancestral Hall, in person on the 24th of March.

(3) A Decree acknowledging the receipt of a Memorial from the Governor-General of Yunnan and Kueichow, reporting the suppression of a rising of aborigines in the Tung-ch'uan prefecture of the former province in the month of November last. The Prefect of Tung-ch'uan, who took the lead in the operations, is given the title of *Baturu*, and rewards will duly be bestowed on the other officers—alive, wounded, and dead—who distinguished themselves in the action that was fought.

Meetings.

ANNUAL MEETING OF RATEPAYERS.

The Annual General Meeting of Ratepayers for the Foreign Settlements of Shanghai, North of the Yang-king-pang, was held on Thursday, 24th February, 1887, at the Masonic Hall, the proceedings commencing at a little after half-past nine o'clock in the morning.

The following is the list of Ratepayers present, with the number of votes held by each:—

Adler, Max.	2	Joseph, H. H.	1
Allanson, W.	1	Keswick, J. J.	14
Arranger, J.	2	Lalaca, E. P.	1
Bailey, John	2	Lester, Henry	6
Bell, Fred. H. ...	7	Little, R. W.	1
Bieber, T.	2	Low, E. G.	1
Bishop, F. C.	2	Mackenzie, R.	4
Bonnell, Rev. W. B. 1		Maclean, P.	1
Brand, W.	4	Macellan, J. W. ...	1
Buchanan, J.	20	Malherbe, R. de ...	1
Buck, Hart.	1	Moore, L.	1
Bush, F. D.	9	Morrison, G. J.	2
Cameron, E.	3	Moses, M. M. S. ...	10
Campbell, R. M. ...	3	Osborne, John H. ...	1
Cardwell, Rev. J. E. 1		Poate, W. H.	1
Catterall, F. P. ...	26	Pardon, J. G.	4
Cheetham, J. F. ...	2	Reding, J. E.	3
Clark, J. D.	1	Rice, E. W.	2
Clifford, W. W. ...	1	Rodewald, J. F. ...	1
Corner, G. R.	2	Schmidt, S. H.	1
Coverjee, P.	2	Scott, J. L.	3
Cumine, A. G. T. ...	6	Seaman, J. F.	2
Darling, D. A.	1	Silas, D. H.	1
Duer, Yeend	2	Thirkell, J. G.	1
Dyer, S.	1	Thorne, C.	3
Farnham, Rev. ...	1	Wainwright, R. E. ...	1
Francis, Robt. ...	4	Ward, W. C.	25
Fryer, John	2	Welch, Jos.	3
Greenwood, J.	2	Wheelock, T. R. ...	1
Hearn, H. R.	10	Wilkinson, H. S. ...	1
Henningsen, J. ...	1	Wilson, A.	1
Hjousbery, J.	1	Wood, A. G.	4
Hogg, E. Jenner. ...	4	Wood, A. P.	1
Holliday, C. W. ...	2	Wooyeda, Y.	2
Jamieson, Dr.	1		

Total—238 votes.

Mr. A. G. Wood, Chairman of the outgoing Municipal Council said—Gentlemen, I am sorry that there are not more people present at the Ratepayers' meeting, but I think there are enough to commence the proceedings. I have to propose—

Resolution I.—That Mr. P. J. Hughes, H. B. M.'s Consul-General, take the chair.

Mr. P. MACLEAN—I second that.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously, and Mr. Hughes took the chair.

Mr. WOOD—I beg to propose the next—

Resolution II.—That Mr. Geo. M. Hart be appointed Secretary of this meeting.

Mr. J. F. SEAMAN—I beg to second that resolution.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then read the notice convening the meeting.

Mr. WOOD—I have now to propose—

Resolution III.—That certain Rules of Procedure, which will be submitted at the forthcoming Meeting, be adopted for use at the Meeting, and remain in force until the next Annual General Meeting.

We have made one small alteration in number 8 of the rules of procedure for this meeting.

Mr. G. J. MORRISON seconded the resolution which

The CHAIRMAN then put, and it was carried unanimously.

The Rules of Procedure are as follow:—
Rules of Procedure to be observed at Public Meetings of Ratepayers convened under the provisions of the Land Regulations 1870.

1.—Every Ratepayer attending a Meeting shall, before entering the Meeting room, register his name and the number of proxies for absent Landowners held by him, and each voter when so registering, shall receive a ticket certifying the number of votes to which he is entitled.

2.—When a Public Meeting of Ratepayers shall have been assembled, a Chairman of the Meetings shall be elected by the Ratepayers present.

3.—After the Chair has been taken, the Meeting shall proceed to the election of a Secretary.

4.—The Chairman shall then read the notice convening the Meeting, and the business of the Meeting shall be proceeded with in the order mentioned in the notice, but this order may be varied by the votes of a majority of the members present at any Meeting.

5.—No proposition or question shall be admitted for consideration at a Meeting, unless it arises directly out of any subject actually under discussion, and which has been mentioned in the notice convening the Meeting; or unless a written memorandum of such proposition or question shall have been lodged with the Secretary of the Council three days before the date for which the Meeting has been convened. In the latter case, a copy of such memorandum shall be published by the Council in the *North-China Daily News* on the days before and of the Meeting.

6.—Every resolution or amendment must be in writing, and signed by the mover and seconder, before it can be put from the Chair, and no subject shall be considered as duly before the Meeting unless it be put from the Chair.

7.—The mode of procedure with regard to amendments shall be as follows:—Any number of amendments to a resolution may be moved and seconded, after which, the Chairman shall put the question for and against, beginning with the amendment last proposed, until some one of the amendments be carried or all be rejected. The rejection of any amendment shall not import the passing of any preceding one, but each amendment shall then in its turn be put to the Meeting. In the event of all the amendments being rejected, the original resolution shall then be put.

8.—In the case of the Budget; should any amendment be brought forward affecting a portion of the Budget only, then such amendment, with any other amendments relating to the same portion of the subject, shall be considered and decided on before other portions of the Budget are discussed. After all amendments relating to portions of the Budget have been decided on, should any of them have been carried, the Budget as amended shall be put to the Meeting.

9.—Upon a division being called for, the Secretary shall read the list of Ratepayers registered at the Meeting, and each voter present shall as his name is read, declare whether he votes in the affirmative or negative, and the number of votes which he casts. When the number of votes on each side are equal, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. The result of the division shall be declared by the Chairman, whose decision shall be final, unless a scrutiny shall be at once called for.

10.—If a scrutiny be called for, the Chairman shall appoint as scrutineers two Ratepayers who shall have voted on opposite sides of the question. Such scrutineers shall

proceed with the scrutiny forthwith, and the result shall be declared by the Chairman before the dissolution of the Meeting.

11.—No reference shall be allowed to any subject or business already disposed of, except by consent of a majority of the Ratepayers present or represented at a Meeting. A resolution once passed can only be rescinded or modified by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the voters present or represented.

12.—All documents which come before a Ratepayers' Meeting shall, if they have been previously exhibited for three clear days (exclusive of holidays) at the Council Room, be accepted as read, unless specially requested to be read at the Meeting.

13.—Each speaker shall address himself to the Chair. As a rule, except it be in explanation of the subject under discussion, or final reply, Ratepayers shall address the Meeting but once on each subject. Any departure from this rule to be permitted only at the discretion of the Chairman.

14.—On all questions of order, the decision of the Chairman shall be final, unless overruled by three-fourths of the voters present or represented.

15.—No business shall be proceeded with at any Meeting convened under the provisions of Article XV of the Land Regulations 1870, until the Chairman shall have declared that the requisite number of Ratepayers are present or represented, and that their votes have been duly registered.

Mr. WOOD—I have to propose—

Resolution IV.—That the Report and Accounts for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1886, be passed.

The Council have to congratulate the ratepayers on the very satisfactory character of the financial statement which they now have to submit. The Budget prepared by our predecessors was conservative, in so far that their estimates were founded on the ascertained results of the previous year, but we are now in a position to record a considerable increase in our income for the past year, for which the estimated income was Tls. 344,500, while the actual receipts amounted to Tls. 378,100, thus leaving a surplus of Tls. 33,600. The expenditure was estimated at Tls. 343,700, and has amounted to Tls. 354,000, or an increase of Tls. 10,300, the net gain on the year over the estimates being Tls. 23,300. Amongst the items to which the surplus is principally due are dues on goods, which have produced Tls. 10,500 more than estimated, the average monthly receipts, amounting to about Tls. 3,900 as against the estimate of Tls. 3,000, but it will be in your recollection that at the last annual meeting the Chairman of the Council stated that there was very good reason to expect that there would be a considerable increase over the estimate. Licence fees show an excess of about Tls. 10,000, one half of which is due to jinricksha and wheelbarrow licenses, and it might be as well if means could be devised to limit a further increase in the jinricksha fees, as there are now about as many of these vehicles plying for hire as our streets can conveniently accommodate. Otherwise the increase of income from these sources is an indication of the growing prosperity of the native portion of the community. Foreign house tax shows a gain of Tls. 3,000, and native house tax of about Tls. 1,500, and it is satisfactory to note that there is again an increase, though a small one, in the number of the native houses in the Settlements, while there is a considerable decrease in the number of unoccupied houses. There have been some savings in expenditure made in the appropriation for the Police Force, amounting to Tls. 3,200, arising from the fact that for a considerable portion of the year the force was not up to its full, authorised strength. In drainage there has been a decrease of Tls. 2,800; the drainage of the North

Szechuen Road having cost less than was estimated, and a few other small amounts. On the expenditure side, the estimates have been exceeded, or payments have been made without previous appropriation; on account of widening roads—Nanking, Tiendong and Seward Roads—old agreements for which no provision was made; substituting a full Bund for the half bunding of the Hongkew Bund and Hongkew Creek, in all Tls. 8,000; dredging the Yangking-pang Creek, Tls. 1,400; and stocks and stores Tls. 2,400. We have also paid Tls. 1,000 more for water supply, in consequence of the award in arbitration given in favour of the Waterworks Company, of which full particulars are given in the report now in your hands, and lastly there is an increase of Tls. 3,200 in the secretariat, representing gratuities to the family of the late Mr. Fabris, and to that of the late comprador; both in their respective departments were valuable servants of the Municipality, and we hope to have your approval to these payments. Of works for which provision was made in the Budget, and which have not been carried out I have only to refer to the drainage of the Sinza Village, for which Tls. 1,500 was appropriated. It was found that this was not sufficient for the work to be done, and without the assistance of the owners of the land, and it has been considered desirable to let this matter rest until the road is surrendered to the public by the present owners. As regards the proposed widening of the Kiukiang Road, I have only to state that we have not received any further communications on the subject. I am not aware of any further explanations I can give, but shall be glad to answer any questions before the resolution is put to the meeting.

Mr. BIEBER—I beg to second the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, you have heard the resolution proposed by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Bieber, and I will be glad to hear any remarks on the subject by any of the ratepayers present.

There being no response,

The CHAIRMAN said—If you have no observations to make, I will put the resolution. Those in favour of it will please to hold up their hands.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. WOOD—The next resolution which I have to propose is—

Resolution V.—That the Tariff of Dues leviable on Merchandise imported or exported at the port of Shanghai, which came into force on the 1st March, 1885, and the rules appended thereto, be in force until the next Annual Meeting.

Mr. MACLEAN seconded the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN—If no one has any remarks to make I will put the resolution.

The resolution was put and declared carried unanimously.

Mr. WOOD—I beg to propose the next resolution—

Resolution VI.—To devise ways and means for raising the requisite funds for Municipal purposes, viz:—

To impose and levy rates and dues and issue licenses as provided for in the By-Laws annexed to the Land Regulations; and to declare an Assessment in the form of a rate to be charged on land and buildings within the limits of the Settlements.

In connection with this resolution I will go through the usual form and read the first part of it in full.

The License fees, gentlemen are left the same as at the last meeting, and you will be good enough to take them as read.

That this Meeting, in pursuance and execution of the powers vested in it by the Shanghai Land Regulations of 1870, imposes and authorises the Council for the Foreign Community of Shanghai, North of the Yangking-pang, to levy, collect and recover upon and from all persons liable to pay the same, the following taxes, rates, dues, and fees for the current year:—

Land Tax at the rate of 4/10ths of 1 per cent. on the assessed value (as assessed in 1882), from the renters of land registered at the various Consulates at Shanghai—half-yearly in advance, on and after the 1st day of January and July respectively.

General Municipal Rate of 8 per cent. on the actual or assessed rentals of houses inhabited by Foreigners, from the occupants,—quarterly in advance, on and after the 1st day of January, April, July, and October respectively.

Dues on all Goods passed through the Chinese Custom House by any person or persons resident within the said limits, or landed or shipped at any place within the said limits, monthly, according to the Tariff and the Rules appended thereto passed at this Meeting, provided the said dues shall in no case exceed the amount of one-tenth of one per cent. on the value of the goods so passed, landed or shipped.

All such taxes, rates and dues, being payable at the time specified, and to be paid within fourteen days of presentation of tax note.

Native Rates and Dues.

Land Tax at the rate of 4/10ths of one per cent. on the assessed value of land, from Chinese owners and renters of land,—half-yearly in advance, on and after the 1st day of January and July respectively.

General Municipal Rate of 10 per cent. on native rentals, from Chinese residents,—monthly or quarterly, as may appear advisable, on and after 1st January.

The particulars of the License fees are as follows:—

License Fees.

For every House of Public Entertainment, Hotel and Tavern, Shop or Store for sale of Wines, Spirits, Beer, Intoxicating Drugs, Butcher's Meat, Poultry or Game, Pawnshop.	According to class of establishment, from \$6 to \$260 quarterly, payable in advance.
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For every Music Hall,	According to class of establishment, from 10 Mexican cents to \$5 for every night open, payable in advance.
„ „ Theatre,	
„ „ Circus,	

For every Billiard and Bowling Saloon, for every night open, computed at the rate of \$3 per quarter for each Billiard Table or Bowling Alley, payable in advance.

For every Dancing Saloon, according to class of establishment, for every night open, from 25 Mexican cents to \$5, payable in advance.

For every Tea Shop, according to class, 10 cents for each table.

For every Horse, Pony, Mule or Donkey, let for hire from Livery Stables, \$1.

For every Four-Wheeled Carriage, let for hire from Livery Stables, \$3.

For every Four-Wheeled Carriage, plying for hire in the Streets of the Settlements, \$6.

For every Two-Wheeled Carriage, plying for hire in the Streets of the Settlements, \$5.

For every Two-Wheeled Carriage, let for hire from Livery Stables, \$2.50.

For every Jinricksha, let for hire, \$1.50.

For every Wheelbarrow, let for hire, 400 cash.

For every Native Water Cart, \$2.

For every Cargo Boat, carrying capacity under 20 tons, \$1.50.

20 tons and under 50, \$2.50.

50 „ „ „ 100, 3.50.

100 „ „ „ and over, 4.50.

For every Native Boat, according to class,—100 to 600 cash.

For every Sampan, at \$1 each for two months, payable in advance.

For every permit to erect mat Sun-shades over public thoroughfares—Tls. 2 per fong, payable in advance.

per month, payable in advance.

For every permit to erect Calico Sunshades over public thoroughfares—5 mace per fong, payable in advance.

For every permit to open Roads, for constructing or repairing connections with Municipal Drains—Tls. 3 each, payable in advance.

Telegraph Fees—Tals one hundred per line per annum, payable in advance.

Cemetery { Vault Tls. 10.00 } in ad-
Fees { GraveSpace,, 2.25 } vance.

Local Post Office Subscriptions—Tls. 30 per annum, in advance.

Mr. M. M. MOSES seconded the resolution which was put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Wood next proposed—

Resolution VII.—That the Estimated Expenditure in the Municipal Budget for the year commencing 1st January, 1887, and ending 31st December, 1887, as proposed by the retiring Council for the Foreign Community of Shanghai, together with the recommendations attached thereto, be approved and adopted.

Mr. A. G. WOOD—In submitting this resolution which deals with an estimated income of Tls. 388,400, including the balance of Tls. 23,300, and an expenditure of a like sum, say Tls. 388,000, I have to make the following remarks:—Dealing first with the Sinking fund, we propose to pay into it Tls. 34,500, which, with the balance brought forward, will bring it up to Tls. 42,000—out of it we arrange for the payment of the loan of 1878 for Tls. 24,000, the last of the loans bearing the high rate of interest of 8 per cent. There will then be left a balance of Tls. 18,000 to the credit of the fund, which we trust will be devoted, with any additions which can be made to it, to the liquidation of the large loan of 1882 for Tls. 60,000, including which the liability of the Municipality in the form of loans still amounts to Tls. 150,000, not of itself, perhaps, a large indebtedness in comparison with our resources, but I think it is a desirable if not essential part of our scheme of finance that the debts should be liquidated as quickly as opportunity offers, and thus free ourselves from encumbrance, and better enable us to meet the contingencies of the future. As a basis for the estimates of the Revenue for the year we have taken the figures produced last year; indeed, our estimates of the receipts from the land tax, foreign and native house tax, and licence fees, are what these items produced last year; it is possible, in fact, we hope, that the results will prove that our estimates are well within the mark, for the income of the various taxes now referred to shows a tendency to expand. We cannot expect that the increase will be on the same large scale as last year, for we find in comparing the figures that the increase was much larger for the first half of 1886 as compared with the like period of 1885, than it was for the relative second halves of those years, and it is well to bear in mind that we have only recently emerged from one of those periods of depression, of which there has been rather frequent recurrence of late years; but I am pleased to say that now we have only the more agreeable feature to contemplate of a steadily growing income. Dues on goods we also estimate to produce as much as last year, or say Tls. 46,600 or about Tls. 4,000 a month, exclusive of the Tao-tai's commutation of Tls. 10,200, this amounts to only about one eighth of the Tls. 365,000, which we expect to raise this year from all sources, and cannot therefore be considered as a heavy proportion to fall on the trade of the place. The expenditure of the year we estimate, as I have already stated, at Tls. 388,000, including provision for the payment of the loan of 1878 for Tls. 24,000, and carrying Tls. 34,500 to the sinking fund—leaving an expenditure for other purposes of Tls. 330,000 as compared with Tls. 323,000 last year. We find it necessary to make an increase of Tls. 6,000 in the appropriation for the police, arising from

provision having to be made for an increase of nine men in the force, for an increase in the merit pay, and the payment of Tls. 2,500 to the police deferred pay fund to keep it up to the level of the claims for which it will become liable. The Nuisance department requires Tls. 1,300 more than last year on account of the larger amount of work in this department, and for water supply we allow Tls. 1,000 more, our actual expenditure on this account last year amounting to Tls. 9,000. Lighting by electricity and gas we leave at same figures as last year. In the Works department, as you will observe, a large proportion of the proposed outlay is for work to be done in the Hongkew Settlement, including the completion of the bunding of the Hongkew Creek in the Fearon Road and drainage in the Chapoo and Tiendong Roads, also of the Seward Road as far as the Kungping Road and other connections down to the river. The drainage of this part of the Hongkew Settlement will then be completed, and no further outlay on this score will be required until further extensions of the Seward and adjoining roads are undertaken, excepting for making up the Seward Road which will be proceeded with as we are able to. In this Settlement we are not proposing any works of importance, and further expenditure is only likely to be for the improvement and extension of the roads. We do not make any special appropriation for the possible cost of land bought for the purposes of widening streets in the Settlements, nor do we propose to apply for a special credit for that purpose, as we trust to meet any demands on this account out of the Revenue for the year. We have made allowance for four new bridges, including a new one across the Yang-tze-poo creek, and one to replace the present Skew Bridge on the Bubbling Well Road. There is an increase of Tls. 2,500 under the heading of Cemeteries to provide for raising another section of the Cemetery, new bunding on the Cemetery Road and necessary repairs in the Pootung Cemetery. The charges in the stud department are increased by about Tls. 1,000 on account of hire of animals required for the Works and Nuisance departments, and in stock and stores there is an increase of Tls. 2,000 to provide for the amount required for the Volunteer force, a possible payment to the Recreation Fund on account of the Town Band, and small additions to public works, cost of drain pipes &c., while the sum of Tls. 10,000 has as usual been written off for depreciation. This is all I have to say in connection with the Budget, but before concluding I would beg to draw your attention to another matter, which is that the Jubilee of the Queen of England is being celebrated this year, and that it is possible that Shanghai may be honoured by the visit of so distinguished a person as the Prince Ch'un, and I am sure that it is the wish of the community that both occurrences should be observed in a manner befitting Shanghai. I therefore think I have only to ask, to obtain your sanction to any steps the Council may deem it expedient to take, either of their own initiative, or in response to any invitations addressed to them, to provide for the appropriate celebration of these important events. (Applause.)

Mr. BIEBER seconded the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen you heard the resolution read and—

Mr. C. THORNE—Mr. Chairman I think that this is about the time that I had better propose as an amendment resolution number X. It is—

Resolution X.—That the sum of One Thousand Tals Shanghai Sycee be inscribed in the Budget for the year 1887 as a donation in aid of the funds of the French Refuge for orphan, destitute and friendless girls of Foreign or Mixed parentage.

You are aware that we voted the grant for this purpose last year and we are assured that the money so voted has done an immense amount of good. In the Orphanage there are 121 inmates, and

of these 67 were educated and maintained gratuitously, 16 were Europeans and the others Eurasians. There were 15 who paid from two to six dollars, eleven who paid ten, and 28 under 10 years and who paid nothing. One girl has been married from the institution and one is about to be married. No doubt it is a pity that we have not an institution of our own where we could take these waifs and strays in, but until we have one we are indebted to the kind Sisters who undertake the education and maintenance of these girls, who would otherwise have to knock about the Settlement, and probably lead lives which many of us would be ashamed to see them do. It would be much better if we were able to establish an institution of our own where they could be taken care of and brought up Protestants instead of Roman Catholics. We hope one may be established during this year, and that the ladies in their endeavour to establish such an institution will be assisted by the subscriptions of those around us. I take this opportunity meantime of proposing with much pleasure that this amount be granted to the French Refuge. (Applause.)

Mr. R. W. LITTLE—I have very great pleasure in seconding Mr. Thorne's amendment, and I believe that the vigorous and stirring speeches on the subject by Dr. Jamieson, the proposer, and Mr. Muirhead, seconder, at last year's meeting are in the memory of everyone. It would be impossible for me to add to their words and those of the proposer of the amendment and I am quite sure that it will be carried. (Applause.)

Mr. WOOD—With regard to the amendment, I may say that the Council admit and approve of it. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. F. H. BELL—Mr. Chairman, it now devolves upon me to move as an amendment—

That the Council—

The CHAIRMAN—We will put the other amendment first, Mr. Bell.

Mr. PURDON—According to the Rules of procedure you will take every amendment before you put one amendment.

Mr. MACLEAN pointed out that this was not so, as would be seen from Rule 8, whereupon Mr. Purdon withdrew his point of order.

Mr. S. DYER—Mr. Chairman, is this not the time that I can propose that this amendment be laid on the table? And I feel that as we are all chiefly English or Americans, it seems a disgrace to us that we should have to vote a sum of money to our French neighbours, to take charge of the children of us English and Americans. But I take a higher ground, for we Protestants ought to be ashamed to have to move this amendment. I am very glad, however, that the mover of the amendment said that something would be soon done. (Hear, hear.) But Mr. Thorne has mentioned nothing to show what becomes of those children when they leave this institution, and I desire to ask have we sufficient information as to what becomes of those children when they leave this institution; whether any large number of them have turned out respectable after they left it, and if they are better off than they would have been if they had not been in the Refuge.

Mr. MACLEAN—As to that I, think the best answer is that we do not find any cases of these children coming under the notice of the police, and therefore we are to presume that they are properly cared for, and that the money is well spent.

Rev. Dr. FARNHAM—I have no doubt that good has been done by this institution, but I think that the matter should be left until the picture becomes blacker and darker, when we will be moved to start a similar institution of our own. I would be glad to see the constitution, so remodelled as to allow the establishment of not only day schools for all, but of higher grade

schools, reformatories and other similar reformatory; that is the bounden duty of everyone who undertakes government, and if we undertake to govern this Settlement, it is incumbent upon us to do all these things that contribute to the welfare of the people. (Applause.) If there is no such institution as that of which the gentleman who moved the resolution has spoken, I say that there ought to be. (Hear hear.) If we pay this Tls. 1,000, will we not be satisfying ourselves with something that is far short of our duty? Is this a constitutional matter to vote this money on, is it a proper thing to vote it on? Have we a right to vote away money in this way? Is it not laid down that this money should be voted for certain things for the good of the community in general, I ask you? I hold that we have no right to vote a single penny of the money raised by taxation to the Sisters. This is a benevolent society, and I will not go into the history of the case. We have never asked this Municipality for anything towards our society, and if we had, we probably would not have got it, while this thing is foisted upon us year after year, and all of us well disposed and kind hearted grant it, of course. I do not question the right of these gentlemen here to grant ten thousand taels apiece if they give it out of their own money, but I question the right to vote away the money of the ratepayers in this manner, and give to Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopalian, or any other Protestant, or Roman Catholic Society carrying on Christian or charitable works, one penny of our money. I have no objection to give them this, but I say let us all in like circumstances receive the same amount. In India and other place schools are provided, and all those who pass the examinations provided, are entitled to a certain amount of money, and if they pass those examinations no one can raise his voice against them. But until they do this here, I say this thing should be stopped. I am afraid that going on as we now are doing we are vitiating our taxation. There are certain things which we can do, and other things which we cannot. We must act legally, constitutionally and rightly. I would therefore venture to move that this amendment be laid upon the table.

Mr. WOOD said in reply to the gentleman who had just spoken that he thought it would be found that the ratepayers had already decided that they could dispose of their money in that way.

Rev. Mr. FARNHAM asked the Chairman to give him decision whether this motion was in order.

Mr. WOOD said that would require notice.

Professor BONNELL—I rise to second the Rev. Mr. Farnham's amendment.

The CHAIRMAN read the original amendment and the Rev. Mr. Farnham's amendment which he put first to the meeting when it was declared lost, their being only six hands shown in its favour.

Mr. THORNE's amendment was then put and declared carried by a large majority.

Mr. BELL—It now devolves upon me to bring before the ratepayers, a matter on which the Trustees of the Recreation Fund feel that they have a very just claim upon the Municipal funds, and I think I can confidently claim the sympathy of all the ratepayers, as we are only asking for a fair repayment for beneficially and successfully expended public money. It will be admitted, I think, that the Recreation Fund has resulted in a great degree to the benefit of the public of Shanghai; without it the Cricket ground, the Rowing Club, the Theatre, the Museum, the Public Band might never have existed, and to the full extent of their powers the Trustees have assisted recreation whenever they thought that public interests would best be served. In the matter of the Public Band, I am confident that those connected with it in the old days of struggle for formation and existence will admit that to the Recreation

Fund were due the first steps to form from the old Wind Instrument Society what has now become, I hope, a permanent source of pleasure to all inhabitants of this place, and that without the fostering influence of the Fund the whole thing would have collapsed, the musicians would have been sent back to Manila; and Shanghai would have been dependent on most uncertain sources for the music for their gallant army, their summer evenings, their theatre, their balls, and their Race Course. The Band was started from the previously existing Wind Instrument Society. From time to time the Recreation Fund advanced money to keep up this Society and finally assisted them in consolidating the whole thing into a regular Town Band. The instruments, of course, were mainly provided by the old Society, but the Recreation Fund enabled them to get together the Bandsmen fully equipped and provided. In 1879 the Society made over to the Fund the whole of their property in instruments music, furniture, uniforms, etc. to cover the special amount of Tls. 2,050 which had been set aside for the resuscitation of the Band on which sum it was understood that the Society was to pay interest. Besides this there had been an amount of Tls. 1,500 which had been expended in the general running of the Town Band, which the Recreation Fund had written off altogether. This special fund however of Tls. 2,050 the Trustees of the Recreation Fund felt they were bound in the interests of the public to make every exertion to preserve, as the income of Tls. 100—that is 5 per cent. per annum—would be of service to them in effecting some other little good for the community. In 1881 the Committee of the Public Band came to the conclusion that the Band could not be maintained here by such an organization as then existed and that to keep the men under proper discipline and to ensure the regular necessary income, it was absolutely essential that the Band should be engaged by the Municipality, lodged in the Municipal Barracks, and kept under regular supervision by Municipal officers. In 1881, then, an arrangement was made with the Municipal Council that the use of instruments, music and furniture should be allowed to them for what has now become the regular Municipal Band for an annual payment of Tls. 100, being 5 per cent. on the Tls. 2,000 specially advanced by the Trustees in addition to the sum of Tls. 1,500 which they had written off as having been expended for the public benefit in providing music during the past few years. The Trustees of the Recreation Fund, however, felt that they were entitled to hold on to the Tls. 2,000 which was at that time well represented by instruments, furniture, beds for the men, uniforms and a valuable library of music, and the Band Committee of the Council were well satisfied to recommend the annual payment for these of Tls. 100, with the understanding that should the Band become a success, the Council would take over the whole plant at a fair valuation. This arrangement, Sir, has been going on for five years, and I am glad to say it did result in the permanent institution of the present Band, which bids fair to afford recreation for many a long day to all the residents of this model settlement. It was not possible, of course, that the instruments, the uniforms, the furniture, that were handed over in 1881 for the benefit of the Municipality should be worth so much in the present moment as they were then—the bandsmen unfortunately are not like the children of Israel whose garments did not wax old, and it is very possible the instruments and the music may to a certain extent have become out of date, but at the time that arrangement—which was an experimental one—was made, it was understood that, if successful, a fair amount would be granted as compensation for the sums the Fund had expended in establishing the Band, originally.

It is true the Municipality has paid us Tls. 500 as interest during the last 5 years, but I think they might very well have granted us the whole of the original outlay which has formed the basis of the present Band. We do not, however, ask for the whole—we admit that there is some reason for the Recreation Fund—which exists for the public benefit—bearing a portion of the expenses, and we ask the Municipality to give as back Tls. 1,000 or one half of the amount specially set apart for the Band. The present Council did not consider themselves justified in offering more than Tls. 750 which they thought was as much as the property as it exists was worth; but we think in a matter of public interest like this, where the money is to go back to a useful public institution—we have good grounds for appealing to you not to cut us down by Tls. 250 but to give us what we ask on public grounds and sanction the grant to the Recreation Fund of Tls. 1,000. (Applause) I will now read—

Resolution XI.—That the Council be authorized to pay to the Recreation Fund Trustees the sum of Tls. 1,000 as compensation for the amounts expended by them in the formation of the Public Band and in fulfilment of the understanding come to in 1881, that in event of the Band being successfully launched, a fair amount would be granted to the Recreation Fund for the instruments, furniture, uniforms, and music made over by them to the Municipality.

Mr. F. D. BUSH—I beg to second the resolution.

Mr. WOOD—The Council quite accept what Mr. Bell has said in reference to the Band, and have no particular objection to the resolution that he has brought forward. We do not know why the agreement made between the Council and the Band Committee in 1881 was not carried out sooner, but on looking through the accounts we find that there was some difficulty about paying the Band Fund.

The CHAIRMAN then put the amendment which was carried without opposition.

The CHAIRMAN—I think that I might say before sitting down, as the Rev. Dr. Farnham more especially addressed himself to me as to the legality of the previous amendment, that I am not prepared to give a legal opinion as to it. But I think that the ratepayers have as much right to vote a sum of money to the Orphanage as the Band Fund. (Hear, hear.) If there are no more amendments, I will put the original resolution. Those who are in favour of the original resolution as amended, will please hold up their hands.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. MORRISON—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have to propose the next resolution on the paper.

Resolution VIII.—That this Meeting authorizes the Council to purchase any property that may seem to them suitable as a site for a Police Station in place of the present station in the Louza District and to raise a sum not exceeding Tls. 30,000 (Tael Thirty Thousand) for the purchase of the land, and the erection of the building, by the issue of Debentures redeemable in not less than five, and not more than twenty years, and bearing interest at the rate of not over seven per cent. per annum.

I have no doubt that almost all the gentlemen, who have been for some time resident in this Settlement know more or less the position of the Louza Station, but I think, very few of them have ever visited it. The building does not belong to the Municipality, but to the Silk Guild, and has been becoming more unsuitable each year. It has been condemned by the Health officers, and the Council are only tenants at will, which is inconvenient, so they have come to the conclusion that they should replace it by some more suitable buildings. They have therefore determined to ask the Ratepayers for permission to buy a piece

of land for a new Police Station, but the exact position of the station has not been decided upon, for the Council feel that if they leave that matter open they will be more likely to receive offers of numerous pieces of land, and will be more able to consider the relative merits of each than if they fixed the exact position in which to place the station. In the Louza district there are 31 beats, 28 in the English Settlement, and 3 in North Louza, close to Russell's Filature. These beats measure about 45 miles, though of course in a good many cases where the beats are close together some of the roads are measured twice. But the policemen out on beat have 45 miles, which they have to walk backwards and forwards. This requires of course a very large number of men and it is impossible that the foreign portion of this force can be properly housed and attended to in the present station. Something more than the exact sum required has been put down so that the Council may be able to deal with the most suitable offer, and get the best piece of land offered to them; but it is hoped the total cost will be less than the sum asked for. If a good piece of land is offered it would be a pity if the Council should have to refuse it, for want of a little money, for if it increases our debt, it will at the same time increase our assets, and will not hurt the financial position of the Municipality. I will not detain the meeting longer but will merely propose the resolution.

Mr. MACLEAN seconded the resolution which was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. WOOD—The next resolution I have to propose is—

Resolution IX.—That the Council are hereby authorized and instructed to prepare a report upon the condition of the foreshores of the Soochow Creek, along with estimates of the cost of levelling, regulating, and bunding the same, and to enter into correspondence, and negotiations with the local authorities and others concerned, for the purpose of drawing up plans and estimates for the execution of any work which may be decided on, as necessary for the conservation of the Soochow Creek.

The Report and Estimates to be submitted to the Ratepayers, either at a meeting to be called specially for the purpose, or at the next Annual Meeting, and any expenses incurred in carrying out the object of these instructions to be defrayed out of the Revenue for the current year.

In proposing this resolution the Council are aware that the condition of the Soochow Creek and its foreshores have already frequently been brought forward at meetings of the Ratepayers. In 1872, '73, '75 and 1881 discussions took place on this subject and though some of the resolutions put forward were adopted, they have not resulted in much benefit to the condition of the Creek. In 1884 a special Committee on the Soochow Creek Bunding was appointed, which, besides drawing up an exhaustive Report, made a number of suggestions about bunding the mouth of the Creek; on them also no action has been taken. And that is how matters stand at present. It is possible that the steps we now propose taking could be attained without making them the subject of a special resolution, but we are of opinion that, as the enquiries we may have to undertake may be of a somewhat extensive nature, it is desirable that our hands should be strengthened by the adoption of a resolution such as this present one. For present purposes the Soochow Creek within the Settlements may be treated of in three sections. First, the section from the Defence Creek to the Honan Road Bridge. With this section the Municipality has hitherto had little to do, as the foreshores are all in private occupation, and it is only as regards portions of the North Hongkew side, that any approaches have

been made to the Council for bunding and road-making—and none of these schemes have yet acquired definite shape. The second section is comprised between the Honan Road and the Garden Bridge, and here it appears to us that considerable improvement could be made without any great difficulty; indeed we have had a plan prepared to show a line of bunding on the South side, following as nearly as possible the low water line and giving a regular and even front from the Honan Road Bridge to the Reserve Garden. This bunding is to be the same as that in front of the Bund—that is an earthen slope, and faced with rubble—and this is estimated to cost about 4,000 taels. On the North side, on which is the deep water and the strength of the tide, our plan provides for a full bunding, similar to the new one to the Hongkew Bund, from the Honan Road Bridge to the boundary of the Wills' estate and this would cost about 30,000 Tls.; but the present half bunding will probably be found sufficient for a portion of this foreshore, and a full bund only along such portion as is required for public convenience. The third section, from the Garden Bridge to the mouth of the Creek, is the one presenting the greatest difficulties, and at the moment I can do no more than express the hope that it may be possible to draw up plans which will provide an ample and natural channel for the water from the Creek into the river, and do away with the mud flats which are such an eyesore and a nuisance at every tide. I do not now enter into the question of the probable cost of carrying out any works which may be recommended, as that will have to form part of the report which will be laid before you in due course, and we are now only asking your consent to the resolution to prepare such plans and estimates.

Mr. MAX ADLER—I beg to second that resolution.

Mr. WAINSWRIGHT—Before you read the resolution, it might be convenient if I say, as to the resolution of which I have given notice—it is No. 12—that when I gave that notice I was ignorant of any intention on the part of the Council to bring forward any resolution with regard to the Soochow Creek. Owing to some correspondence which took place between the Council and myself with reference to the Hall and Holtz piece of land on the foreshore, I was pledged to bring forward some sort of resolution on the subject. But the bringing forward of the Council's resolution looks as if they were going to enquire into the matter generally, and I therefore think it is unnecessary for me to bring forward any resolution upon it. At the same time, I may say that it appears to me to be a very convenient thing that the Council, in whom we have the greatest confidence, should have power, if they think it expedient, or necessary, to make any arrangement which would admit of some of the foreshore being utilized for the benefit of those to whom it belongs, so far as that can be done without any public injury. There was a very rabid paragraph in this morning's paper, imputing all sorts of motives to the framers of my resolution—

Mr. MORRISON—I rise to order.

Mr. WAINSWRIGHT—I entirely disclaim any insidious meaning in framing that resolution. But the Council cannot touch the foreshore without consulting the owners, that is quite clearly meant by the Privy Council. As matter stand supposing Mr. Ince as an owner wanted to make a flower garden, the Council could not give him leave. However as the Council are going to take the matter in hand themselves, I have nothing more to say.

Mr. WOOD—In drawing up the resolution I especially avoided any reference to the subject that had been given notice of, and I may say that in the reclaiming of the whole foreshore and putting it in satis-

factory condition, I did not mean to interfere with the legal rights of the owners.

Mr. BUCHANAN—I should like to ask by what right the Council allows the Shanghai Rowing Club to occupy a portion of the foreshore. I contend that this Club is not a public institution, is no more a public body than the Shanghai Club, and if a man wants to be put up for membership he has to be proposed and seconded, and if lucky enough not to be blackballed, has to pay an entrance fee.

Mr. MORRISON said he would like to say one word as to the resolution proposed by Mr. Wood; this resolution distinctly asked the Ratepayers to authorise the Council to make certain enquiries, and also to incur some slight expense in doing so; but it refers to the conservation of the Soochow Creek and does not refer in any degree to the private rights over the foreshore, and the Ratepayers would understand that even if this resolution be carried unanimously, the resolution which was to have been moved by Mr. Wainwright has been wholly withdrawn, and that the Council would not act upon Mr. Wainwright's proposed resolution. Those who voted on Mr. Wood's resolution should distinctly understand that they were not voting on the other resolution.

Mr. WAINSWRIGHT—I cannot do anything more than withdraw it. I have already done that.

Mr. LITTLE said he did not know how Mr. Morrison so limited the meaning of the resolution which covered a great deal more than he said it did, the wording stating distinctly that the Council are to "prepare a report upon the condition of the foreshores."

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution which was carried unanimously.

The resolution of which Mr. Wainwright had given notice was—

Resolution XII.—That the Council are hereby authorized to make such arrangements as they shall think fit, and as shall not be prejudicial to the rights and to the reasonable convenience of the public, for the utilization of the foreshore on the south side of the Soochow Creek between the Garden and Honan Road Bridges by the owners of the land to which such foreshore appertains.

Mr. WOOD—We have now to propose the list of Ratepayers willing to serve on the Board of Governors of the Shanghai General Hospital. They are: Messrs. F. H. Bell, Alex. McLeod, R. E. Wainwright and Dr. Neil Macleod.

The gentlemen named were declared elected.

Mr. WOOD—Before we separate, I beg to propose a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Seconded by Mr. McLeod.

The motion was unanimously carried, and the proceedings terminated.

COMPAGNIE DU GAZ DE LA CONCESSION FRANÇAISE.

The annual meeting of the shareholders in the above named Company was held on Friday at the offices of Messrs. Schöndard & Co., the Agents of the Company. Mr. R. Francis (Chairman) presiding. There were also present Dr. L. S. Little, Messrs. J. J. Thorburn, W. Saunders, E. H. Oxley, J. Chapsal, and P. Brunat. Total number of shares represented 272.

The CHAIRMAN said that as they had a quorum present they would proceed to business, having first elected Messrs. Thorburn and Saunders scrutineers.

M. J. FOURNEL was appointed secretary of the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said that the next business was to pass the report and accounts. The report was pretty full and he thought it was necessary to say anything more than was in it, or that the meeting would require him to read it, as it had

been in their hands for sometime. He congratulated the shareholders upon the position of the Company and their having been able to reduce the price of gas. If affairs went on as well as they had been doing no further sum would be required in respect of the depreciation of the Chinese property of the company. It was to be hoped that the consumption of gas would increase, although he admitted that they were only to expect that the increase would be slow on that side. If there were no questions to ask he would put the first resolution—That the report and accounts be passed—

The motion was seconded by M. CHAP-AL and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed that the dividend as declared in the report be paid to the shareholders on Tuesday the 1st March.

Dr. LITTLE seconded the resolution which was carried.

Mr. THORBURN proposed and Mr. SAUNDERS seconded that M. Brunat, succeed as director, M. L. Guilloud.

The resolution was carried unanimously. On the motion of Mr. Oxley seconded by Mr. Saunders. Messrs. Vinay and Lajest were re-elected auditors for the year 1887.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman proposed by Mr. Saunders brought the proceedings to a close.

THE SHANGHAI MARINE ENGINEERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

The fifth annual general meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday evening, at the Marine Engineers' Institute. Mr. Henry Good (Director) presided, and there were also present Messrs. William Pearce, Wm. B. Buyers, William Hardie (Directors), Robert Craig, W. Hall Jackson, William Gordon, Andrew Miller, Alex. Brown, Alex. McAllister, William Jenkins, Alex. McEwan and G. W. Stiles (Secretary) representing with proxies 130 shares.

The CHAIRMAN declared the meeting duly constituted, there being a sufficient number of represented.

The SECRETARY after reading the notice calling the meeting, and the minutes of the last annual meeting, read the report and accounts as follows:—

REPORT.

The Directors have pleasure in presenting to the Shareholders the Fifth Annual Report and audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1886.

By these accounts it will be seen that the net premium earned during the year is a little less than for 1885, but the Directors anticipate a better result during the present year.

The Losses sustained by the Society for the period now under review amount to Tls. 300, caused by the wreck of the steamer *See-wo* in March, 1886; and since the accounts have been closed a further claim has been made of Tls. 260 by the loss of the steamer *Wan-nien-ching* on the 20th instant.

After writing off the *See-wo* loss, together with the 6% per annum Dividend to Shareholders on Capital, there remains a balance at credit of Profit and Loss of Tls. 932.68, which, with the sanction of the Shareholders, the Directors propose to dispose of as follows:—

Addition to Reserve Fund (thus increasing it to 1,700).....	Tls. 200.00
Bonus to Contributing Shareholders of Tls. 1.50 per share (making in all 9% interest per annum on Capital for year).....	363.00
Provision to meet loss on <i>Wan-nien-ching</i> risk.....	200.00
Directors' Fees.....	100.00
Balance carried forward to new account.....	69.68

Tls. 932.68

This is the first year in which the Directors have received any remuneration, and in view of the many calls made on their time, the Shareholders will no doubt fully approve of the present nominal fee of Tls. 20 each.

In conclusion the Directors are glad to be able to state that there has been a very satisfactory increase of business since the commencement of the current year as compared with the same time last year, and with the assistance of the Shareholders by inducing Insurers to come forward, there is every reason to hope the next Annual Report will show considerable improvement on the past.

In accordance with the Deed of Settlement the Directors retire from office, but offer themselves for re-election.

The Auditor, Mr. Robert Law, also offers himself for re-election.

HENRY GOOD,
WM. B. BUYERS,
WILLIAM PEARCE,
GEORGE DAVIDSON,
WILLIAM HARDIE, } Directors.

GEO. W. STILES,
General Agent.
Shanghai, 29th January, 1887.

BALANCE SHEET on 31st December, 1886.	
To Capital—	Liabilities.
300 Shares fully paid up of Tls. 50 each.....	15,000.00
Less 31 Shares repurchased in reduction of Capital.....	1,550.00
	Total Capital..... 13,450.00
Reserve Fund—	
Profit and Loss Account.....	1,500.00
Balance of this account as below.....	932.68
	Tals..... 15,882.68
Assets.	
By Cash on hand—	Tls.
In Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.....	7,821.80
General Agents—	
Amount due by them.....	13.65
Premium Account—	
Outstanding Premium.....	100.00
Investment Account, viz:—	
7 Bonds of Imperial Chinese Government Silver Loan of 1881 costing.....	Tls. 3,700.00
Mortgages and Loans on approved securities.....	Tls. 4,079.00
	7,779.00
Interest Account—Interest on above investment to 31st Dec., accrued but not yet due and payable.....	118.23
Office Furniture and Stationery on hand.....	60.00
	Tals..... 15,892.68

WORKING ACCOUNT, from 1st Jan. to 31st Dec., 1886.	
Dr.	
To General Agent's	Tls.
10 per cent. commission on Gross Premium.....	118.35
Office Rent—	
Wages, Printing Stationery, Petty, &c. ..	197.64
Auditor—	
Remuneration for 1886.....	20.00
Profit and Loss Account—	
Net Gain.....	1,700.35
	Tls. 2,036.34
Cr.	
By Premium—	Tls.
On Policies issued for Tls. 23,700 ..	1,183.50
Less—Rebate.....	2.50
	1,181.00
Interest—	
On Investments, Mortgages, and Loans.....	855.34
	Tls. 2,036.34

PROFITS AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.	
Dr.	
To Losses—On <i>See-wo</i> risks.....	Tls. 300.00
Dividends paid, viz:—	
Guaranteed interest on Capital to 30th June, 1886, at 6 per cent per annum on Tls. 13,600.....	Tls. 469.60
Guaranteed interest on Capital to 31st December, 1886, at 6 per annum on Tls. 11,600.....	349.00
	756.00
Balance carried forward.....	832.68
	Tls. 1,988.68
Cr.	
By Balance on 31st Dec., 1885.....	Tls. 1,138.83
Less (per last Report)	
Amount carried to Reserve Fund.....	Tls. 400.00
Bonus to Shareholders of Tls. 1.50 per share.....	Tls. 400.50
Extra Remuneration paid late General Agents.....	Tls. 50.00
Balance carried forward.....	Tls. 288.33
	Tls. 1,138.83
Balance of Working Account, as above.....	1,700.35
	Tls. 1,988.68

E. & O. E.

Shanghai, 29th January, 1887.

GEO. W. STILES,

General Agent.

Approved—
HENRY GOOD,
WM. B. BUYERS,
WILLIAM PEARCE,
GEORGE DAVIDSON,
WILLIAM HARDIE, } Directors.

I hereby certify that I have compared the above statements with the Books, Vouchers, and Securities of the Society and found the same in accordance therewith.

ROBERT LAW,
Auditor.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, you have heard the Report and statement of Accounts read. I think we may congratulate ourselves upon continuing to be in a position to pay 9 per cent dividend to shareholders and at the same increasing the Reserve Fund. If any one has any questions to ask I shall be happy to answer them.

No questions were asked. It was proposed by Mr. BROWN, seconded by Mr. CRAIG, and agreed to:—

That the Directors Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1886, as circulated and read, be accepted and passed.

Mr. CRAIG proposed and Mr. McEwan seconded:—

That the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting be confirmed as read.

The motion was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN said the next resolution was for the election of Directors, and that if the retiring Directors were elected he could say they would all be willing to serve for another year.

Mr. CRAIG proposed:—

That the retiring Directors Messrs. Good, Pearce, Buyers, Davidson and Hardie be re-elected.

Mr. MILLER seconded the resolution which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. GORDON proposed and Mr. McEwan seconded:—

That Mr. Robert Law be re-elected auditor for the present year.

Carried *nem. con.*

The CHAIRMAN said the shareholders would observe by the report that the Directors were able to announce a considerable increase of business since the commencement of the current year, and he might further say that unless the losses were exceptionally heavy during the next twelve months the prospects of the Society were never better. He called upon shareholders generally to bring the object of the Society as much as possible to the notice of their friends who were likely to avail themselves of the opportunity of insuring. If at the end of the year, the Society's position admitted of it the Directors would take it into consideration the advisability of making a return to non-shareholders on premium contributed by them.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman proposed by Mr. Buyers and seconded by Captain Jackson.

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL.

The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity was held yesterday in the British Consulate. Mr. P. J. Hughes, H. B. M.'s Consul-General, presiding.

There were present Sir E. Hornby, Messrs. J. J. Keswick, F. H. Bell, Joseph Welch, F. Julian Marshall, W. R. Carles, A. Dallas, Wm. Brand and E. J. Hogg.

The CHAIRMAN, upon taking the chair said—Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in receiving you according to the annual custom in this office. I am obliged to you for inviting me to preside at this meeting of the subscribers to Holy Trinity Cathedral, and I thank you more particularly because the name of the subscriber whom I have the honour to represent—Her Majesty's Government, a liberal benefactor in past days—is no longer on your annual list. I will now read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN, having read the notice, which, as well as the report, has already appeared on the *Daily News*,

Mr. J. WELCH, the Hon Treasurer said. As the report has been in your hands for some time I presume it is unnecessary for me to read it. You will observe that the accounts are rendered in a different form

from last year in accordance with the wishes expressed at the last annual meeting of subscribers. The term Subscriber has been substituted for *Pew Renter*. The subscriptions received from British subjects have been kept separate from those received from other than British subjects, and the money due to the Tower and Spire Fund has been taken out of general account and placed on yearly deposit with the Agra Bank Company, Limited. The incidental expenses have been unusually heavy on account of the cost of various passages, but in spite of this the income for the year has exceeded the expenditure by some 700 taels. There is no reason to suppose that the income for the present year will fall materially short of last year, as there are very few withdrawals from the list of subscribers, and the property is well let. I have nothing more to say on the subject of account. As to the post of organist, we have to thank Mr. Luning for the time and trouble he has kindly given to the choir organ, but up to the present time no one has come forward whom the trustees have felt confident in appointing to follow Mr. Pentum. I regret to say that both Mr. Bell and Mr. Keswick wish to retire from the office of Trustees, and it will be necessary for you to elect two gentlemen to fill their places. I beg to propose that the report and accounts be passed.

Mr. BELL seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business, gentlemen, is the election of office bearers.

Mr. MARSHALL—Mr. Chairman, I beg to propose that Mr. Wm. Brand, Mr. E. J. Hogg and Mr. Joseph Welch be elected trustees for the ensuing year.

Mr. KESWICK—I beg to second.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen, and I thank you for your attendance.

On the motion of Mr. Welch, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman and the proceedings terminated.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The eighteenth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above-named Company was held at the office, Pedder's Street, on the 22nd ult.

There were present:—Hon. J. Bell-Irving (Chairman), the Consulting Committee.

Mr. E. E. Dear (Secretary) read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—I propose as usual, Gentlemen, with your permission, to take the Report as read. The information given therein, and the continued satisfactory working of the Company, render it unnecessary for me to make more than a few remarks. The comparative immunity from accident which has attended the risks pertaining to 1885, has made the profit for that year which is now finally closed, the largest we have had since the Company started. After having transferred \$42,890.34 to the Reserve Fund, we are enabled to declare a dividend of \$27½ per share, and pay a bonus as usual to contributing Shareholders. The working account for 1886 shows a balance at credit of \$328,567.46, and the only losses that we know of which do not appear in the accounts amount to \$1,053. After deducting that sum, and any further losses attaching to policies issued in 1886, the balance will be available for appropriation at the next annual meeting. There is nothing further that calls for comment, but if anyone has any questions to ask I shall be pleased to answer them.

The being no questions, the Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Bottomly seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously. The retiring Committee men and auditors were then elected.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Company was then held for the purpose of passing the subjoined Resolution:—

The notice having been read—

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the Resolutions which, in pursuance of the notice just read, will be submitted for your approval, are briefly to the effect that power will be given to appropriate annually a sum not exceeding 10 per cent. of the net profits to increase the Reserve Fund. The importance of a powerful Reserve to a Company of this nature is sufficiently well understood, but it may not be considered inappropriate if I make one or two remarks as to some of the reasons which guided the General Managers and Consulting Committee in deciding to recommend this course. They have not been unmindful of the sagacious remark of an old and esteemed shareholder at the last general meeting, when proposing a much appreciated vote of thanks, namely, that he was only sorry that our Reserve Fund had reached such a stage that it could not be carried on. Since then the limit for individual risks has been raised from \$100,000 to \$150,000, and it might have been better to have provided at the same time for an increase in Reserve, but it can now be done. It will be noticed that the amount which may be set aside is limited to 10 per cent. of the net profits, and you will please bear in mind that it is not at all obligatory that this amount, nor indeed anything at all should be appropriated, and it will be found in practice that this very moderate provision will affect only to an infinitesimal extent, the immediate advantages which are likely to accrue both to shareholders and contributors of business in supporting the Company. If it were necessary, I might appeal to the management of the Company in the past as evidence of the assiduous care and attention which the interests of shareholders have received, and it is needless to say, that this will also be the policy of the future. It is imperative if we are to maintain our position of premier Company in China, that we should if possible do better than simply stand still, and looking to the future, we are satisfied that in recommending these resolutions we are acting in the best interests of the Company. A strong Reserve is not only in itself a source of revenue to the shareholders, it is as well a guarantee of security to insurers, and as such, a not unimportant factor in attracting business. All really first class Companies have provided very important reserves, and in these days of business activity and competition, it is necessary to be at least abreast of the times. With these remarks, Gentlemen, I beg to propose the following Resolution:—This resolution, empowering the directors to increase the reserve to \$1,500,000, by additions of not more than 10 per cent. of the profits of any year, was seconded by Dr. Adams, and then put to the meeting and carried against a minority —*Hongkong Telegraph*, abridged.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The eighteenth ordinary meeting of shareholders in the above was held at the Company's office, No. 45, Queen's Road, on the 22nd ult., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1886.

There were present:—Hon. P. Ryrie, (Chairman) the Directors and several shareholders.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, I beg to propose the adoption of the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year just passed. I think you will all admit the accounts are very satisfactory. We have escaped any very serious losses notwithstanding the number of fires have been

unusually large—no less than six taking place within a fortnight—but without resulting in any serious loss to the Company. The accounts as you will see show very good results and the only portion I need refer to is the advance on the Shanghai Mei Chuan Li property, formerly held on mortgage but now foreclosed. It is nearly new and was completed last year by the Company. It stands as an asset at its exact cost in the books, at which it yields rather more than 9 per cent. The Company's Surveyor at Shanghai, Mr. T. W. Kingsmill, considered the saleable value of the property on the 9th inst. at Taela 32,000, but estimates it to be worth more in the near future. The losses and claims paid since the accounts were made up amount to \$2,075 on account of numerous small fires in Hongkong, and \$7,300 incurred by fire in Manila, which was unfortunate, but may not occur again. I beg to propose that the report and accounts be adopted.

Mr. GEORGE—I beg to second that.

The retiring Directors and auditors were then elected.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, that is all the business and I thank you for your attendance. The Dividend Warrants and Bonus will not be paid so promptly as usual on account of the Races, as it is a sort of holiday with the Banks, who do not want to be bothered with dividend warrants. I do not suppose any of us really want the money in a hurry so we can lie out of it and invest it on the Races. I think with this view that the warrants should be paid after the Races, and therefore they will not be posted until Saturday. —*Hongkong Telegraph*, abridged.

Amusements.

THE "SOCIAL GATHERING" OF THE COSMOPOLITAN LODGE.

There has been no Masonic Ball this spring, and in the absence of this annual festivity, the Cosmopolitan Lodge, No. 428, S.C., determined to inaugurate a new departure, and give a dance on its own resources, unaided by its sister lodges. Shanghai is beginning to get too large for the inclusion of all classes, which has generally been sought in balls at the Masonic Hall, to be convenient or comfortable, and the Cosmopolitan Lodge accordingly called its entertainment by the less pretentious name of "social gathering," reduced the subscription to a moderate sum, and restricted the invitations to the members of the Lodge, and their immediate friends. There were, however, some seventy-five ladies, and a much larger number of gentlemen, present at the dance on Friday night, although a considerable number of people were drawn away to another large dance in the country. A well-stretched pinafore covered the floor of the Masonic Hall, the walls of which were decorated with the shields of the various lodges in Shanghai, and their masters, and masonic banners and emblems; and here the dancing was kept up with vigour from soon after nine till the small hours of the morning. In the long banqueting-hall overlooking the Bund, refreshments were served, and a supper which was apparently inexhaustible. The music was supplied by the Customs band, and everything was done by the stewards for the comfort and enjoyment of the guests. The following is the list of stewards and the programme of the dances and music:—

STEWARDS:

J. G. Thirkell.	J. Pearson.
T. Pemberton.	J. Bailey.
W. Mielchenhausen.	R. A. Anderson.
W. Youngson.	F. Kofol.
B. R. Grayston.	R. D. Dobie.
A. Lairditch.	

PROGRAMME.

- March.....*Juanita.*
 1.—Quadrille.....*Britannic.*
 2.—Valse.....*Blue Danube.*
 3.—Polka.....*Hanky Panky.*
 4.—Lancers.....*Original.*
 5.—Schottische.....*Tootsie.*
 6.—Waltz and Galop.....*Seesaw & Featherball.*
 7.—Quadrille.....*Madame Angot.*
 8.—Mazurka.....*Le Rhin.*
 9.—Highland Schot-
 tiche.....*Original.*
 10.—Lancers.....*Patience.*
 11.—Valse.....*Dream Faces.*
 12.—Polka.....*La Mascotte.*
 13.—Quadrille.....*The Times.*
 14.—Varsouviana.....*Original.*
 15.—Waltz.....*Fedora.*
 16.—Lancers.....*Pirates of Penzance.*
 17.—Mazurka.....*One Heart, One Soul.*
 18.—Quadrille.....*La Mascotte.*
 19.—Waltz.....*Estudiantina.*
 20.—Circassian Circle.

THE HONGKONG RACES.

FIRST DAY.

Wednesday, 23rd February, 1887.

[BY TELEGRAM.]

- 1.—THE WONG-NEI-CHONG STAKES. Half a mile.
 Mr. Tau Broeck's *Dunkeld*..... 1
 2.—THE ASHLEY CUP. One mile.
 Mr. John Peel's *Honesty*..... 1
 3.—THE HONGKONG DERBY. One-mile-and-a-half.
 Mr. Sassoon's *Harvester*..... 1
 4.—THE LUSITANO CUP. One-mile-and-a-quarter.
 Mr. John Peel's *Bandsman*..... 1
 5.—THE VALLEY STAKES. Three-quarters-of-a-mile.
 Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's *Duncan Gray* 1
 6.—THE FOCHOW CUP. Two miles.
 Mr. John Peel's *Mistletoe*..... 1
 7.—THE CANTON CUP. One mile.
 Mr. Sassoon's *Exchange*..... 1
 8.—THE STIRRUP CUP. One-mile-and-three-quarters.
 Mr. Sassoon's *Athos*..... 1
 9.—THE COMRADERS' CUP. One mile.
 Mr. Tasman's *Wagga Wagga*..... 1

SECOND DAY.

Thursday, 24th February, 1887.

- 1.—THE SCURRY STAKES. One mile.
 Mr. Buxey's *Joker*..... 1
 2.—THE EXCHANGE PLATE. Two miles.
 Mr. John Peel's *Mistletoe*..... 1
 3.—THE GERMAN CUP. One-mile-and-a-quarter.
 Mr. Tasman's *Wagga Wagga*..... 1
 4.—THE PROFESSIONAL CUP. One-mile-and-a-quarter.
 Mr. John Peel's *Bandsman*..... 1
 5.—THE PARSEE CUP. Seven furlongs.
 Mr. John Peel's *Gone Away*..... 1
 6.—THE VISITORS CUP. One-mile-and-a-half.
 Mr. Sassoon's *Councillor*..... 1
 7.—THE FAREWELL CUP. One mile.
 Mr. Buxey's *Quiz*..... 1
 8.—THE FLYWAY STAKES. Three-quarters-of-a-mile.
 Mr. John Peel's *Honesty*..... 1
 9.—THE WELTER PLATE. One mile.
 Mr. Buxey's *Fun*..... 1

THIRD DAY.

Friday, 25th February, 1887.

- 1.—THE BROKERS' CUP. One mile.
 Mr. Humphreys' *Vanity*..... 1
 2.—THE CHALLENGE CUP. One-mile-and-three-quarters.
 Mr. Sassoon's *Athos*..... 1
 3.—THE LADIES' PURSE. Seven furlongs.
 Mr. Sassoon's *Exchange*..... 1
 4.—THE NAVY CUP. One mile.
 Mr. Buxey's *Cheapside*..... 1
 5.—THE KEECHONG CUP. From the Black Rock twice round and in.
 Mr. Sassoon's *Chartreuse*..... 1

6.—THE GARRISON CUP. From two mile-post once round and in.

Mr. R. Fraser-Smith's *Duncan Gray* 1

7.—THE CONSOLATION STAKES. Once round.

Mr. Buxey's *Rollicker*..... 1

8.—THE CHAMPION STAKES. One-mile-and-a-half.

Mr. John Peel's *Mistletoe*..... 1

9.—THE NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES. Half-a-mile.

Colonel Anderson's *Wynberg*..... 1

Correspondence.

MR. KOPSCH'S POSTAL SCHEME.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I have read with the attention they deserve your remarks on that part of the Hongkong Postmaster-General's Report which deals with Mr. Kopsch's scheme for a Customs Post Office. On the merits of this scheme Shanghai has pronounced, at a meeting which Mr. Lister admits to have been fair and reasonable in its tone, an opinion sufficiently unfavourable. But, notwithstanding their great interest in the matter, the communities at the outports have had no similar opportunity of expressing their views, and there is danger lest judgment should go by default. And yet, as Mr. Lister says, the 'convenience and welfare' of these very communities should be the main consideration in the question. In this spirit Mr. Lister professes to approach it: may I, in turn, from the nearer standpoint of an actual outport resident, show what would be the real effect of the scheme on this same convenience and welfare?

To do this, the easiest way perhaps,—at any rate to one little skilled in controversy,—would be to take one by one the paragraphs of Mr Lister's Report,* which are, for the purpose, conveniently numbered. Para. 4 contains the statement already quoted, viz, that it is in the interest of the communities at the Treaty Ports themselves that Mr. Lister advocates Mr. Kopsch's scheme. Here Mr. Lister first shows, parenthetically it is true, that misconception of the situation which must excuse what otherwise would almost seem infatuation in him. These communities he says 'perhaps include more of our fellow-countrymen than of any other nation.' (The italics are mine). Now the Customs Returns for 1885 give these figures for the whole of China:—

	Firms.	Residents.
British.....	233	2,534
Other foreigners.....	133	2,688
Japanese.....	24	747
Non-treaty Powers.....	6	729

Even including the last two classes, the proportion of British residents is 39% of the whole; of Americans, the next most numerous on the list, but 11%. Here there seems hardly room for even a rhetorical 'perhaps.'

This, however, is a question of statistics. Mr. Lister next proceeds to develop his argument. 'Extraterritorial post offices are necessary evils, and wound national susceptibility,—not, as yet, that of China, but they may do so shortly.' The national susceptibility of China wounded by a British post office is a flight of fancy, or of faith, too giddy for us to follow. 'By the time the present postal agent, a Consular Officer, has learnt his duties he is due for transfer to another port.' As Mr. Lister says, in Para. 12, that 'postal work only requires ordinary care and attention,' and as the average stay of a Consular Officer at a port is, I understand, about two years, this is a little hard on his present subordinates. Moreover, post office business at one port must much resemble post office business at another. It is unnecessary to

* Printed as Appendix C in his General Report for 1886.

add that the members of the Customs are at least as frequently transferred.

The allegation in Para. 7 that "the post offices at most of the ports being in Consulates are too far removed from the business parts of the settlements to be really efficient," is very misleading. At two only of the ports is the Consulate at a distance from the business quarter, and at these the mails for Hongkong are closed by the Agent at an office in that quarter lent for the purpose by one of the merchants. On the other hand mails from Hongkong are almost invariably received out of business hours,—before 8 or after 4,—when the merchants are at their homes, close to the Consulate. In passing, it may be observed that Mr. Lister's illustration that "it takes an hour under the most favourable circumstances to cross and recross Swatow harbour" is somewhat wide of the mark. Swatow harbour can, I believe, be crossed in from 10 minutes to a quarter of an hour, and an answer should consequently be received in half an hour, unless the circumstances are very unfavourable indeed,—s, for instance, if the gignem want to dine, or the messenger has met with a crouy.

These statements of Mr. Lister's are however, mere inaccuracies, and are not much to the point either way. The real issue is joined (unconsciously, it would seem, by Mr. Lister) in Par. 8-10:—"Another great disadvantage is that the Hongkong Government cannot enforce any postal regulations in Chinese ports. The residents send their letters by the mail if they think fit to do so; if not, and more generally they send them on board the steamers."

The Customs would bring to the task the power of search and, most important of all, the sanction of the national authority, which would allow of the making and enforcing of regulations such as exist in most ports elsewhere."

Remember that Mr. Lister is supporting the scheme in the interests of the communities at the various ports. To whom then is the present state of things a 'great disadvantage'? Take the position of a British merchant at Amoy. If he wishes to send a letter to a correspondent at Fuchow as things are, he may send it free in the ship's letter-box, or he may send it through the British post office for 5 cents. Then again if the mail for Hongkong is closed, but, as may happen, the steamer has not yet left, the merchant may post his Hongkong letter loose on board and, provided it is properly stamped with Hongkong stamps, it will be delivered in due course. What, however, would be the case if the Customs had the sole control of postal matters at the ports? They would exercise their 'power of search' and would confiscate all unstamped loose letters,—just as the General Post Office at Hongkong proposes to do after the 1st March. But if the letters had Customs stamps affixed? Any such not being in the Customs mail-bags would on arrival at Hongkong be treated as though they were unstamped (except that they would probably not be confiscated) and double postage charged,—precisely as Hongkong now treats a similarly circumstanced letter from Singapore with the stamps of the Straits Settlements. They might, however, have, as now, Hongkong stamps on them; in that case they would be seized by the Customs not less surely than if they had none at all, as being equally a loss to their revenue. Thus the only way of sending letters, whether to Hongkong or to another Treaty Port, would be by actually posting them at the Customs Post-office.

But here again would be felt a contrast with the present system. Mr. Lister 'cannot doubt that the present facilities would eventually be much extended by the Customs.' What, however, would happen, the most elementary student of human nature and of the I.M. Customs could, one would think, easily foretell.

The Customs would not be able to fix a later hour for the departure of the mail than is fixed by the present Postal-officer, since they can only go, as he does, by the notice sent them by the steamer's agent. Any means of conjecturing that her departure would be postponed would be equally in the hands of the British Postal-officer, as more than 80 per cent of the steamers are British. The steamer, let it be said, would be announced by its agent to leave at 4 p.m. The Customs Post-office would advertise a mail to close at 3.45, so far in accordance with the present practice of the British Post-office. But they would at the same time, being now free to follow their bent in 'making and enforcing regulations,' state that no letters could be registered after, let us say, 3.15 (it would more probably be 2.45, as now at Hongkong). Let any letter be presented for registration at 3.20, or for ordinary posting at 3.50, and it would be refused, with the same inflexibility that is now applied in more purely Customs matters. At present, the British Postal Agent will register a letter till the last moment, or in any other way oblige the public.

In brief, as things are, the agent is the servant of the community; as things might be, the Customs Postal-officer would be its master.

But is this all? Granted that 'the whole work of the Customs' is as satisfactory to foreign residents as Mr. Lister is convinced that it is!—and in the face of Mr. Commissioner Hobson's recent action at Shanghai in the matter of the new opium *lekin*, and of the fact that letters cannot be registered between Tientsin and Peking where the Customs Postal Service is in full work, it is not easy to grant; still, grant all that is claimed in their favour by Mr. Lister,—yet, how long are the Customs, as at present constituted, likely to last? Already the number of intelligent native clerks speaking, reading, and writing English is considerable, and it is no secret that the Chinese Government are desirous of taking the service into their own hands. It has 'wounded national susceptibility in' a way that half a dozen British Post Offices never have done, and never will do.

But if the Customs pass into the hands of native officials—as, by parity of reasoning with Mr. Lister's arguments, why should they not?—the Customs Post Office would pass too. Under the present management of the Customs, foreigners' correspondence, however much it might be delayed, or taxed, or harassed by regulations, would be safe, except from confiscation. Would it be equally inviolate in the hands of native Postmasters?

It is idle to talk of the scheme being a step in civilisation to be taken by China. It originated with a foreigner, a Commissioner of Customs, and if it has been approved by the Chinese Government, can only have been approved as a means of raising revenue, and of raising revenue at the expense of foreigners. The Chinese Government dare not, at present, interfere with the vested interests of the many, and excellent, native post-shops. (But here I am trenching on ground already covered by you.) Revenue being the sole aim in view, not a decrease, but an increase, of the home postage would take place. No more letters would be sent from Shanghai for 25 *centimes*, or, for that matter, from elsewhere in China for 10 cents. Even at their present rate of 9 candareens (say 13½ cents) the ½ oz., the Customs Post Office has shown a deficit. If they are to pay the dues claimed for Hongkong by Mr. Lister in para. 17, this rate, high as it is, must be increased, or the promised large profit to the Chinese Government be foregone.

Under these circumstances, do you think that the coming in of Mr. Koepch's scheme would much increase the 'welfare and convenience' of

A DWELLER IN THE OUTPORTS?

THE "NORMANTON" AND "NEPAUL" CASES.
To the Editor of the

NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR.—In a former letter I called your attention and that of your readers to the advisability of suspending judgment on the Nagasaki riot until the Chinese case could be brought forward in a legitimate manner. It then seemed that the Japanese case, as put forward by the press in Japan, was to be taken as a statement of the facts and of all the facts; now, however, the belief is expressed by a representative of that same press that 'the Japanese, on their part, are open to the charge of having carried resistance to the length of revenge,' a remarkable admission when we recall the shrill cries which proceeded from those papers before the commission was opened and before there was any attempt at a calm judicial inquiry.

I now write to point out the difference in the attitude assumed by the Japanese and Chinese press and public in regard to the *Normanton* and *Wan-nien-ching* disasters respectively. It is not my desire to compare the two cases, or to imply that there was the same apparent disregard of life shown in the one case as in the other. There was, however, the same loss of life in both cases, and that on the *Wan-nien-ching* was intensified in its effect by the fact that it occurred on the eve of the New Year festivities. Compare then the difference in the expression of the feeling evoked in the two cases, and yet we cannot imagine that the Chinese felt less the loss of their co-nationals than did the Japanese on the former occasion; compare the studious avoidance of comment in your columns with the readiness of comment before judgment of the foreign press in Japan; compare the calm dignity with which the officials and vernacular press in China awaited the judicial decision in the case of the *Wan-nien-ching*, with the shrill cries for justice (with a capital J) of the Japanese native press even while the *Normanton* case was proceeding; and then reflect that it is Japan which, relying on its reputed advance in civilisation, is now demanding the abolition of the extra-territoriality clauses in its treaties with foreign Powers. That Japan is not yet braced, that it has in fact only just discarded its swaddling clothes, and that it has certainly not earned the *toga virilis*, must be the opinion of any

NEUTRAL.

Shanghai, 24th February.

THE HANGCHOW HOSPITAL—AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR.—I am requested by Dr. Main of Hangchow to make known through your columns a very serious loss which has befallen the Mission Hospital under his care.

Last Sunday night a thief dug through the mud wall of the hospital compound, made his way to the operating room, burst open the case in which the Doctor keeps his surgical instruments and appliances, and made off with the whole, amounting in value to about eight hundred dollars. Some of these instruments were Dr. Main's private property; and as the instruments and appliances were in daily use at the hospital, the loss is not merely a pecuniary calamity, it practically for the time being suspends all surgical aid given in this most useful and highly valued institution.

Dr. Main will be most grateful for any donations in money or in kind to make up this serious loss.

Every effort is being made at Hangchow to trace the thief; but he has probably made his way to Shanghai, since he would find no purchasers of such articles in an inland city. Should such be offered for sale here within the next few days or weeks, information conveyed to the police

may probably lead to the recovery of this property.

Meanwhile as there is pressing need for immediate help, I shall be glad to receive and forward to Dr. Main any assistance which your readers may feel disposed to render.

I remain, Sir,
Your faithfully,

ARTHUR E. MOULE.

Shanghai, 24th February.

In Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

IN ADMIRALTY.

Shanghai, 23rd February.

Before Sir R. T. RENNIE,
Chief Justice.

And

Capt. ROSS, a.s. *Benalder*. } Assessors.
Capt. JACKSON, a.s. *Paumben*. }

THE "NEPAUL" "WAN-NIEN-CHING"
COLLISION.

HIS LORDSHIP in giving judgment said:—This is a cause of damage instituted on behalf of the owners, master and crew of the Chinese steam vessel *Wan-nien-ching* against the British steamship *Nepaul*, a vessel belonging to the Peninsular and Oriental Company of about 1,900 tons register and 600 horse power. The collision occurred on the morning of the 20th January last, between 6 and 7 o'clock at a spot in the mouth of the River Yangtze, about 7 or 8 miles from the Tungsha light ship. The *Nepaul* carrying the mails, passengers, and cargo from Hongkong to Shanghai had anchored the preceding evening at about 5 o'clock at a spot nearly 9 miles further out, and on the morning of the collision having weighed her anchor at or about 5 minutes past 6, was proceeding up the river towards Shanghai. The *Wan-nien-ching* had also anchored on the preceding evening at the spot where the collision occurred, and was still at anchor there when she was run into and sunk by the *Nepaul*. Formal proof having been given by the plaintiffs as to their vessel having been at anchor in a proper place at the time of the collision, with proper riding lights burning and a sufficient look-out maintained, the burden of proof was admittedly cast upon the defendants of showing that the accident did not occur by their default, and it is therefore desirable to consider their case in the first instance. They allege in their answer that shortly before 6.30 a.m. on the 20th of January, 1887, the *Nepaul* in charge of a duly licensed pilot was proceeding towards the Tungsha lightship at the mouth of the river Yangtze, heading North-west ½ north and making between six and seven knots an hour. The wind was fresh from the West North West, the tide was flood with a force of about half a knot an hour and the weather was overcast and hazy. The *Nepaul* had all her regulation lights burning brightly and a good look-out was being kept on board of her. The steam whistle of the *Nepaul* was being regularly sounded. Under these circumstances those on board the *Nepaul* heard the sharp blast of a steam whistle nearly ahead or a little on the port bow, and supposing that the vessel, from which the sound proceeded was approaching and directing her course to starboard, the engines of the *Nepaul* were put full speed astern and the order given to put the helm hard-a-port, but immediately after such order was given, and before it could be carried out, a bright light suddenly came into view nearly ahead, and as this seemed to indicate a vessel crossing to starboard, the helm of the *Nepaul* was ordered hard, a-starboard. Very shortly afterwards the stem of the *Nepaul* struck the starboard side of a

vessel which proved to be the steamer *Wan-nien-ching*, about midships; and the defendants expressly charge the *Wan-nien-ching* with having kept a bad or insufficient look-out, with neglect to exhibit lights, or an improper exhibition of them; with having omitted to sound a bell, and with improperly blowing a steam whistle while at anchor. And they allege generally that the collision was caused by the default and negligence of those on board the *Wan-nien-ching* and that there was no default or contributory negligence on the part of those on board the *Nepaul*; and that so far as the *Nepaul* is concerned the collision was the result of inevitable accident. The plaintiffs on the other hand having heard the evidence given on behalf of the defendants allege that the *Nepaul* was in default on five different grounds, viz. Getting under weigh before daylight without taking sufficient precautions; undue speed at the time of describing danger; manoeuvring in ignorance of actual facts and giving contradictory orders in the course of such manoeuvring; insufficient look out; and lastly not stopping and anchoring immediately the fog commenced, that is to say at the time the *Nepaul* reduced her speed from full to half speed. It may be well to consider first, what are the main facts in dispute. In reality they are not many. The parties disagree as to the actual time at which the collision occurred, the plaintiffs putting it at a few minutes past 6 a.m. and the defendants at about 6.35 to 6.40, but no question of any importance appears to arise upon this point. As to the weather there is but little disagreement as between the plaintiffs and defendants, although the witnesses on one side and the other give different accounts of it. It is clear that both vessels had anchored on the previous night on account of the weather being such as made it imprudent to proceed further in the night. Neither of them appear to have sounded a fog bell, (one witness for the defendants says they did so, but in this he is contradicted by the Captain and it would seem that he must have been mistaken on this point) nor do they, either of them, appear to have taken any special precaution against fog while at anchor. In the morning, before the *Nepaul* got under weigh, her witnesses say that there was no perceptible fog. The Captain says he could then see a good three miles. It was an overcast hazy morning, cold and dark. The pilot says when "we got under weigh the weather was hazy, but I supposed I could see the same as on the day before five or six miles. The weather seemed the same. I could not see any fog," and both these important witnesses agree that after the vessel had been under weigh and going full speed for a time the weather seemed thicker, or not so clear, and that on that account they reduced the speed from full to half. On the other hand the plaintiffs' witnesses say that about 6 o'clock in the morning the weather was passably clear. The Captain (Danstrom) says that when he went on deck a few minutes before 6, he could see about two miles from the ship. The second mate (S-mner) who was on watch from 4 a.m. says the weather was passably clear when he came on watch, that he could then have made out two or three miles off. Neither did he notice any change in the weather until very shortly before the collision. Then as to the thickening of the fog or its having arisen suddenly there appears also to be no dispute, for whilst the Captain and Pilot of the *Nepaul* say that they deemed it advisable to reduce their speed on that account, we find Captain Danstrom of the *Wan-nien-ching* saying that shortly before the collision he had changed his original intention of getting underweigh by reason of the weather beginning to thicken. On the whole, having regard to the evidence given on both sides, I am satisfied that at or about the time of the collision the *Wan-nien-*

ching was more or less enveloped in a fog bank of no great extent, which had suddenly blown over her from the shore and which considering the state of the weather then prevalent was not a very extraordinary circumstance. With regard to the force and direction of the tide, there is a conflict of evidence. The pilot of the *Nepaul* says that the force of the tide could not have exceeded one knot per hour, and that it was setting S.W. to S.W. by W., whilst Osborn the master of the *Tung-sha* lightship, who would seem to be a very competent witness gives the force of the tide at Tungsha, and at the scene of the wreck, at the same period as $2\frac{1}{2}$ knots with a N.W., or a little more northerly direction, but this point appears to be only material so far as the speed of the *Nepaul* has to be considered. In regard to the question of speed we have to deal principally with the evidence given on behalf of the defendants. According to that of the Chief Engineer, the full speed of the *Nepaul* that morning would have been about 11 knots and her half speed from 7 to 8. According to the Captain, her full speed would have been about 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ knots and half speed about 6 to 7 whilst according to the pilot full speed would have been about 9 knots, half speed about 6. Possibly it may be safe to take the Captain's estimate of it as being at least low enough. But it is to be observed that according to the positions marked upon the Admiralty chart by the Captain and Pilot, the *Nepaul* was anchored the night previous to the collision at a spot some nine miles distant from the scene of the accident, and that according to the evidence given by the same witnesses, and the official log of the ship, she only took some 33 minutes to traverse this distance, or in other words was travelling at the rate of some 16 miles an hour. Be this as it may, the Nautical Assessors in answer to questions I have put to them, on this point, although doubtful as to whether she should have weighed anchor at all when she did do so, are clearly of opinion that the *Nepaul* considering the state of the weather, and the narrow waters she was moving in, where she might reasonably expect to fall in with steamers and sailing vessels, both at anchor, and under weigh, was proceeding at an undue rate of speed from the time she first went half speed, until the collision. They are also of opinion that her slowing down from full to half speed at the time she did so, that is to say at about 6.30 a.m., was not a sufficient precaution to take at the time, in view of the increased thickness of the weather. The Assessors advise us that she ought to have certainly gone slow or dead slow, and perhaps even have anchored. This being so I now come to the consideration of the manoeuvres of the *Nepaul* on hearing the whistle of the *Wan-nien-ching*. According to the evidence of Mr. Coates, the pilot of the ship, who was in charge of her speed and course, at the time when the special danger arose, it appears that having slowed down to half speed he suddenly heard a sharp blast of a whistle which he took to be another steamer coming out of the River, nearly ahead, or a little on the port bow, upon which he gave the orders hard aport, stop, and full speed astern. He thought, he says, that the other vessel had seen him first and that she also was porting. Immediately afterwards he says he saw a light under the fore-yard, seeming like a mast head light, nearly ahead, or a little on the port bow. At the same time he saw the spars of the other vessel, and thereupon assuming that she was crossing the *Nepaul's* bow to starboard reversed the order of hard aport to hard a starboard, shortly after which the collision occurred. The distance at which the whistle of the other steamer was first heard is variously estimated by the different witnesses, for the defendants at from 200 to 300 yards, or according to one witness,

4 or 5 ship's lengths, and Mr. Coates says the light was about 200 yards off when he first saw it. The *Nepaul*, it would appear had hardly felt the action of the port helm at the time when it was reversed to hard a starboard, but it is said that she is very quick at feeling her helm, and certainly answered in a greater or less degree to it when starboarded. In answer to questions I have put to them, the Assessors advise me that on hearing the whistle of the *Wan-nien-ching*, the *Nepaul* acted quite properly in putting her helm to port, and going astern inasmuch as if she heard then only one blast of a whistle she would be justified in considering it as a signal to port, or assuming that she had heard a succession of short blasts she would have also been justified in so doing, on the ground of its being a danger signal. In regard to the subsequent reversal of the helm to hard a starboard the assessors advise me that the *Nepaul* was wholly wrong. They do not think that those on board the *Nepaul* were justified in assuming that the *Wan-nien-ching* was a crossing vessel, even after they had seen her lights and masts, for if the *Wan-nien-ching* had been a crossing vessel and signalling by whistles she should have blown two blasts to indicate that she was doing so, and they add that considering the *Nepaul* had a right handed screw, the result of reversing the helm to hard-a starboard at that period would have been to neutralize the action of the helm, and bring about a collision. On the other hand, they say that the right handed screw going astern would have assisted the port helm, and that the *Nepaul* if she had remained under it would probably have avoided the collision, even had the other vessel been, as she supposed, crossing her bows. On the whole they are distinctly of opinion, in which I wholly concur, that the reversal of the helm at this period was an error of judgment on the part of those in charge of the *Nepaul*, and directly caused the collision. On the grounds therefore of undue speed and improper manoeuvring, I am quite satisfied that the *Nepaul* must be held to blame. There remains however to be considered the case of the *Wan-nien-ching*. It is admitted that she is not absolutely bound by the Regulations for Preventing Collision at sea, to which almost all the Maritime nations of the world, except China, have assented; but it is contended that as her Master and Officers are Foreigners acquainted with, and as they themselves say acting generally in accordance with the principles and practice enjoined and prescribed by those Regulations, any marked deviation from such practice and principles would be strong evidence of negligence on their part; and this is actually charged against them, in addition to their being accused of having violated the general principles of Maritime law by which they are admittedly bound. Thus it is said that they disobeyed the 12th Article of the Regulations by omitting to sound a bell whilst in a fog, that they indicated a port helm by whistling only one blast contrary to the provisions of the 12th Article, and thereby induced those on board *Nepaul* to believe that they were under weigh, and it is suggested that their riding light was too high, and consequently to be taken as a masthead light under article 8. I am, however, of opinion that the bank of fog in which the *Wan-nien-ching* seems to have been suddenly, and only temporarily enveloped, was not such a fog as that in which article 12 contemplates a bell being rung at intervals of two minutes, and I do not think that the non-ringing of the bell could have been in any way contributory to the collision, for amongst others, the reason suggested by the plaintiffs' counsel, that is to say that the defendants would have been extremely unlikely to hear it, even if it had been rung when they failed to hear their own going three times struck by their own look out man. As to there having only

been one short blast of the whistle I think the evidence of those on board the *Wan-nien ching* entitled to as much credit as that of those on board the *Nepaul*. Now the Master says that he himself pulled the string of the whistle in a succession of short quick blasts. He is supported in this by the 2nd mate, and the quartermaster, as well as by a Chinese gentleman, an officer of rank, who being on the bridge describes expressively enough the whistle as a "long too too too whistle," the like of which he never heard before. It is quite possible that those on board the *Nepaul* may not have distinctly made out the series of short blasts, but even one of their own witnesses says the whistle was blown not like a signal, but as if by a man in a hurry. I am on the whole inclined to believe the plaintiff's version of the matter, and the Assessors advise me that no blame can in their opinion be attributed to the *Wan-nien-ching* for blowing their whistle in the best way they could when the danger of a collision became imminent. Then as to the riding lights. It is a curious feature in the case that none of the *Nepaul's* witnesses appear to have noticed the second of these lights, that at the stern, but they appear to have been both observed and taken note of as good riding lights by Captain Pratt of the *Kiangteen* who passed the *Wan-nien-ching* in the night, and I do not think the somewhat hasty assumption of the Captain and Pilot of the *Nepaul* that the light being higher than a proper riding light, can be taken as out-weighting the positive evidence given by *Wan-nien-ching's* witnesses as to its actual position. There remains one point which was not laid stress upon by the defendants, to which I have thought it necessary to give some consideration, and that is in connection with the look-out. The defendants suggested that the *Wan-nien ching* had not a proper look-out, but they did not specially urge that she ought to have sooner heard the *Nepaul's* whistle and replied to it. It would seem that this may have been so, but on the other hand I think that had she heard the earlier whistle four or five minutes before the collision, the *Nepaul* considering the speed at which she must have been going would have been then at such a distance as to render a reply to it almost unnecessary, if as seems probable the fog had not then closed in upon the *Wan-nien-ching*. I may add that the Assessors concur in this view of the matter, and agree with me that the account given as to the lookout kept on board the *Wan-nien-ching* appears on the whole satisfactory. I do not then find that any case of contributory negligence has been made out against the *Wan-nien-ching*, and I pronounce the *Nepaul* wholly to blame for the collision. There will be the usual decree, and reference to the Registrar.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 25th Feb., 1887.

Before GEO. JAMIESON, Esq.,

Acting Assistant Judge.

ASSAULT WITH A RAZOR.

CHARLES SOLAINE, second mate of the ship *Colchester* was put forward charged with cutting and wounding Daniel Ostell, carpenter on the s.s. *Nestor*, and Humphrey White, a fireman on the same ship.

The first complainant stated that on Wednesday night he went into the Victoria Hotel to get a glass of beer. There were two men in the place going to fight, one of them being the prisoner, and the other a man named Clinch, also belonging to the *Nestor*. Some one shouted out "knife," before they had struck a blow, Clinch only having proceeded so far in the encounter as to have got his coat off. Complainant turned round and saw the prisoner with a knife in his hand and tried to take it from him. He did not see the knife

well enough to be able to describe it then, as the prisoner's hand was moving all the time. Complainant thought the best way to get the weapon from him was to knock him down, which he did by putting his arms around him, taking his legs from under him at the same time. Two or three other men next caught the prisoner to take the knife from him and it was then that complainant found that he was very badly cut. From the nature of the wound he would say that he caught hold of the blade of the weapon, his hand being cut across. He did not know at the time that the weapon was a razor's; witness was quite sober.

The prisoner in reply to the bench said that he met the complainant and Clinch first in the Globe Hotel. He had the razor in his pocket by a mistake, having forgot to put it back in his room on the ship. He was intoxicated at the time of the row, and did not remember using the weapon.

HUMPHREY WHITE fireman on the *Nestor* who also appeared with his arm in bandages said that he went into the Victoria for a glass of beer on Wednesday night and heard the people there shouting that the prisoner, who was on his back, had a razor, and while in trying to get it from him witness got his arm cut open. Witness did not see the beginning of the row. The prisoner did not say anything; witness merely went to assist his own ship-mate, Clinch, who was wrestling with the prisoner for the possession of the razor, with which he was trying to cut everyone he came across. Witness succeeded in taking the razor from him, and walked out.

Witness's coat (produced) was cut right across the arm.

The prisoner in reply to his Worship said he did not cut the witness whom he thought cut himself in the struggle.

Dr. WM. CUNLIFFE of the *Nestor* deposed that he examined the injuries of the men and found that White had received a deep wound $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long on the left arm. The wound was not exactly serious now, but might be so afterwards. None of the blood vessels were injured. Ostell's was a more serious cut, it being 4 inches long. Some important portions of the structure in the hand were severed. Witness would not be able to tell for a fortnight whether Ostell's wound would turn out more serious. The *Nestor* was going away on Saturday.

Inspector FOWLER said that he did not hear until then that Clinch had been in the row.

JAMES CLINCH was then sworn and said he was a fireman on the *Nestor*. He corroborated the evidence of his shipmates, and added that the prisoner came into the Victoria "looking for fight." He asked witness to fight him, and took out the razor and flourished it about. Witness who was sober, never saw him before. The prisoner seemed to be the worse of liquor.

His Worship said he could not understand why the prisoner took out the razor. He would not deal finally with till Saturday in order to see how the injured men progressed.

The prisoner who had nothing to say was then put back till the next day, when he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

U. S. CONSULAR COURT.

Before General KENNEDY, U.S. Consul-General, Acting Judicially.

Shanghai, 1st March, 1887.

A TALE OF THE SEA.

Captain PEABODY, master of the American ship *Antelope*, appeared to prosecute a number of his crew for aiding and abetting in the desertion of a seaman named Reil, alias Philips, who as it appeared, being dissatisfied with his life on the ship, slipped over the side one night in January last in longitude 145.54 E. latitude 18.5 N., taking with him a small plank for a raft

and two or three scraps of canvas for sails, with which frail craft he intended to make one of the islands of the Ladrone group.

The evidence of the Captain was to the effect that on the night in question the man was missed by the second mate, and one of the crew, named Simpson, afterwards in the presence of the mate, said that he had gone over the side, having provided himself with a plank and sail. It was a very calm night, the ship was going at about a knot an hour, and if timely notice had been given she could have put about and the man brought back.

Alec Simpson, a brawny fine-looking young fellow, considerably over 6 feet high, and stated to be a wood-cutter from one of the Western states, and a "greenhorn" at sea, was first put forward, and in accordance with the American practice was examined in his own behalf: He said; I knew James Philips on board the *Antelope*, he being in the same watch with me. The last time I saw him was on the night he disappeared. He was then standing on the main hatch talking to a Malay. [The latter has since deserted from the ship.] I did not tell Captain Peabody that I saw Philips go over the side, with a plank. All I told the Captain was that it was the intention of the missing man to make for land on the first opportunity and that it was my intention too. I did not see any plank over the side of the ship, Philips may have got down by the main hatch that night without my seeing him, I was so miserable that I was not paying any attention to him. A man named Paddy Grant was on watch at the time, and I think that a man could have got away from the ship without Grant seeing him. Philips had often said that he would make for the first island he saw, and I intended to do the same on account of the treatment I received on board the ship. We were treated like dogs and called foul names by the first mate.

To Captain PEABODY—I told you that I had lost several nights' sleep after the disappearance of Philips, because it was only natural that I should be uneasy, considering my own state at the time, and that one of my watch went overboard. The reason I did not want to leave the ship on Saturday was that being in port we were not so roughly used, and had better grub and besides the first mate was not there; so I thought that I would wait and try to get a chance of something better. The man whom the mate brought forward to you, having first knocked him down on the hatch, got no satisfaction. I thought that I would not get any if I complained about the mate's treatment.

Captain PEABODY stated that he had investigated the case referred to by the witness and found that the man had been asleep at the wheel on three occasions, and did not steer the ship straight. He had also drawn a knife upon Simpson, but came out of the encounter looking as if he had been mauled by a "well-trained wild cat" (laughter.)

JAMES THOMAS the second mate of the *Antelope* was next examined and said that he did not know anything about the disappearance of Philips, whom he last saw on the night of his disappearance, standing on the main deck. That was about a quarter to nine o'clock. On the muster of the watch witness missed a man and upon asking where he was, was told that he had gone forward, but as he did not join the muster, a search was instituted, every part of the ship being searched thoroughly. It was a clear still moonlight night and a man could not have fallen overboard without being noticed. Witness spoke to one of the men, named Edwards, who was lying in his bunk, and told him that one of the men was missing, and he (witness) thought it strange that a man should take so little notice about the disappearance of a ship-mate as Edwards seemed to do. Simpson afterwards told witness that there was a

man on the ship who knew more about the disappearance of Phillips than he did, adding that Phillips went voluntarily upon a plank four or five feet long and two or three inches thick. He had also with him a piece of canvas and some pieces of stick and there were two or three anchor holes bored in the plank to receive the sticks. At the time Phillips was missed a man named Grant was on the look-out, and an old man named Swensen was at the wheel. It was impossible that any man could fall overboard without being noticed by either of these men. There was nothing said about Philip's disappearance till witness noticed it. Witness found a piece of spun yarn hanging over the side of the vessel and the end of the fore clew garnet in the water, by which it was presumed that the plank and the man were lowered into the sea.

Captain PEABODY was recalled and corroborated the statement of the last witness that the splash would have been heard if a man fell overboard. Mr. Thomas was present when Simpson told him that he knew all about Philips going overboard.

His HONOUR said that he was satisfied in his mind that Simpson knew about Philip's intention to leave the ship, and it was his duty to report the fact to the officers of the ship. He would therefore pronounce him guilty of misconduct.

Patrick Grant was then put forward on a similar charge and pleaded not guilty.

The second mate deposed that the accused was on watch close to the place where the piece of rope was hanging, by which Phillips went overboard, and the man could not have gone without Grant seeing him.

The accused was examined and said that the last he saw of Phillips was shortly before he was missed when he came to witness and said "Paddy, for God's sake give me a drop of water." Witness said that he was nearly as badly off for water himself. Witness did not know anything about Phillips' intention to go overboard, and if he did he would have reported it to the officers.

General Kennedy delivered judgment in the case at 2 o'clock. He told Nielsen, Limbec, Colhoun, Johnson, and another, who were in the Chief Officer's watch and down

below at the time of the occurrence, that they were discharged, as he considered that they had nothing to do with the escape or desertion of Phillips. Addressing the remaining men Simpson, Grant, Swensen, Stenken and Strauss who were in the second mate's watch, he said there was not legal proof enough to convict them, and so he must dismiss them also, although he was morally sure they must have heard the man leave the ship, and connived at his desertion. The law required that in a case where prisoners were not found guilty he must "honorably" acquit them. He could not here do that, they would simply be allowed to go. The Captain was quite right in calling for the investigation. If it could be found that the man who had deserted was drowned, the sailors would be liable to be tried for manslaughter, but he left that matter to their consciences. He could not honorably acquit them, but simply dismissed the case for lack of legal proof.

OPIMUM

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDING 26TH FEBRUARY, 1887.

IMPORTED		MALWA.		PATNA.		BENARES.		PERSIAN.				
		Chests.	Pis.	Chests.	Pis.	Chests.	Pis.	Chests.	Pis.			
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels		58	58.00	29	34.80	36	43.20	..	..			
Returned from shore on board R. Vessels		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed		3	3.10	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Landed direct		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Total.		66	66.10	29	34.80	36	43.20	..	..			
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption		16	16.00	26	33.60	26	31.20	1	1.00			
RE-EXPORTED from board Receiving Vessels:—												
Description.	Chulkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Total.
	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Wght. Pis.
Malwa	49½ 48.60	13 13.00	42 42.00	10 10.00	23 23.00							136½ 136.60
Patna												
Benares					4 4.80							4 4.80
Persian	1 1.00											1 1.00
Turkey												
Total..	49½ 49.60	13 13.00	42 42.00	10 10.00	27 27.80							141½ 142.90

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 1st March, 1887.

PIECE GOODS.—Thursday next—the 3rd instant—will witness the re-opening of ocean communication with Tientsin. Ten steamers are now berthed and are advertised to sail direct on that date. Each will carry a good cargo, but the dealers all say the sum total will be smaller than that carried by the first steamers last year, and the reason they give is that supplies in some measure have failed them, that considerable portions of their contract engagements in cotton staples, on which they were depending, are still afloat. At the same time there are others—professing to be well posted—who put forth an estimate that exceeds the figures of 1886 by about 5,000 packages, and, if the general appearance of our streets and jetties during the last few days is to be applied as the test, and even making liberal allowance for the riverine off-take, for Hankow also has been an important factor in the business,—that estimate should prove to be not so very wide of the truth. The clearances and shipments, whether to Tientsin or upriver, or both, have been very heavy, and the dealers have been so occupied with them since the bustle began as to leave buying pretty much to look after itself. And yet, quiet tho' the market has been, sellers, as a rule, have been able to establish a further improvement and to snap their fingers at such as dared presume to speak of lower rates. At the moment the seller holds the ropes, but his crew are still jibing, and he finds it a somewhat difficult matter to reach his goal in "dead heat" with his opponent Exchange.

Sheetings.—American—Once more this item claims the front place in the week's register. Upwards of 50,000 pieces have been reported sold, and the price of Indian Head has hardened until we believe \$2.70 could be got for a line to arrive. Stock goods have reached \$2.67½ per piece, cash, and are much wanted at that. Judged by the other sales announced, the market remains unchanged but very steady, the quotations being \$2.62½ for Appleton Lion, \$2.60 for Bott Cock, \$2.37½ for Eagle W, \$2.35 for Red Three-Sheep, and \$2.30 for Red Elephant.

In the English Sheetting only a small business has been done, but at rates which indicate an improving market, \$2.49 being now the quotation for Crocodile and \$2.42½ for Buffalo Head, against \$2.47½ and \$2.40 last week.

Grey Shirtings.—\$1-lbs.—The published transactions are under 12,000 pieces, an unusually small aggregate for the season of the year, but there is, undoubtedly, a scarcity of the qualities in request, viz., fair to good medium makes—and hence—chiefly—the advanced rates they are now commanding. Green Lion and Flag has been sold at \$1.41 and Flying Horse at \$1.40, Lion and Spear 200 has risen to \$1.47½, Blue Swan and Green Globe have realised \$1.54 each, and Silver Scroll shows to-day \$1.62 against \$1.61 on this day week; and the market, generally closes quietly but strong.

6-lbs. and 7-lbs.—These have been dealt in at auction only.

9½ a 10-lbs.—With the exception of 1,000 pieces John Bull at \$1.88, 1,250 pieces Lion-on-Bale at \$1.97½ and 2,500 pieces of Red Butterfly at \$1.95 there has been no private business disclosed, but some demand has, prevailed and Indent offers have been made without leading to any result, the good folks of Manchester being so far beyond our dealers' primitive ideas on the subject matter of the price.

12-lbs. cloth has been wanted, but very little has transpired to show the state of markets. The one sale reported is 2,000 pieces Double Feather at \$2.27½ per piece.

White Shirtings.—Quietness has ruled the market. At the opening for the week 6,500 pieces Llankee were sold at \$1.80 and 400 pieces Gold Fok at \$2.30 per piece, but since then apparently no private business has taken place.

T-Cloths.—Quietness also has been the dominating feature here, and this same is a little strange considering the run that was made on them last Thursday in auction and the improvement there established. The private sales of 7-lbs. bar. reach 5,000 pieces as reported, and the latest of them shows an advance of 1 cent per piece during the week.

Of 8-lbs. a lot (900 pieces) of Red Dragon has changed hands at \$1.32 piece.

Drills.—*English.*—A further sale of *Common Dragon* has taken place at £1.25 per piece, but the *Crocodile* has advanced to £2.45, or say 2s. per piece on its quotation this day week. Business 8,400 pieces. *American.* The daily records give 2,100 pieces as the total of the week's work, and make £2.55 less 1% the quotation for P.M.C. In one and the same breath, however, *Buffalo Head* is quoted £2.52 per piece.

Jeans.—During the past and previous weeks some 5,000 pieces of good *Dutch* have been settled at £1.70 per piece, and the bulk of them I hear is now in course of shipment to Tientsin. In regard to *English Jeans* and *American* the daily sheet is silent. The same with reference to

Cotton Yarn. but the shipments of Bombay spinings to Tientsin now in progress are said to be very heavy.

Fancy Cottons.—The reported sale of 1,500 pieces *Gold Dragon* 2½-lbs. *Turkey Reds* noted in our last report has to be contradicted. No such transaction took place, and that is about all that is to be said under this heading to-day.

Woollens.—A better feeling pervades this department, but yet very little business is disclosed in private. *Black Lastings*—4½-reed—of hard and soft finish have been sold to Newchwang buyers at £6.95/7.00 per piece, and *Spanish Stripes* have been in some request at improving rates. Last week's prices have been repeatedly offered and declined for *Scarlet Long Ells*, and good medium *Cumlets* (for which there has been a demand) have been done on indent at 1% advance on previous values; this in response to and in sympathy with the firmness at home and the lower Exchange here. *Black Italian Cloths* of different grades have been disposed of to extent of about 400 pieces at from £5½ up to £6½ per piece, and *Figured Orleans* have been saleable in small quantities at recent quotations, but *Lustres* and *Medium Cloths* have been neglected.

Metals.—From Mr. Alex. Biefield's Report:—Our Import market has remained fairly active and a satisfactory number of sales has been recorded. **LEAD.**—The market is quiet but steady. Some business has been done in L.B. at £4.17½ spot and £4.12½ to arrive. Of other brands there are no sales on record. **PIG IRON.**—Continues quiet. For Gartsberris No. 3 there is some demand at £17 a £19. **NAILROD IRON.**—This line is not so firm. Prices for Belgians have somewhat given way owing to unsatisfactory reports from the North, where stocks have not much decreased during the winter. 100 tons *Dawes* are reported sold at £1.95 and 10,000 bundles *Belgian*, *Chatelet*, at £1.50. **BAR IRON.**—There are some orders in the market for special sizes, but generally speaking the market has remained dull. **GALVANISED IRON.**—Is selling in small lots at £3.20 a £4. *Entries* for February are piculs 317 of Plain Iron Plates, and Sheets piculs 4,728, and Iron Chains piculs 848. **IRON WIRE.**—A further decline has taken place in this line, and business has been done at £3.50 for Nos. 10/25, at which rate about 170 casks are reported sold. **OLD IRON.**—This market has been inactive during the week. A small business has done in the way of indents, but transactions in the open market have been confined to a sale of 1,400 piculs *Horse-shoes* at £1.48, and 800 piculs *Cart Tires* at £1.46. **TINPLATES.**—Remain depressed. Sales are reported of 700 boxes I.C. *Coke* at £3.75, and 200 boxes I. C. *Coke* small size at £3.55. **STEEL.**—In firm and wanted at £2.60 a 2.70 for plain, and £2.80 a 2.85 for *Bamboo*, *STRAITS TIN*—Prices have slackened and some 360 slabs *Fok-chok* and *Sok-hong* have been taken at £27.20 a 27.50. **COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING.**—All descriptions are in full supply, and business has continued quiet. **JAPAN COPPER.**—Large purchases, it is reported, of some 2,000 piculs, have been made for the North and stocks are very much reduced in consequence. *Sze-Yue*, of which there is no stock at all, is wanted at £12.25. **SHEET ZINC.**—Continues in demand. **GERMAN SILVER AND NICKEL.**—Is without change. During last month arrivals were piculs 534 of the former and piculs 54 of the latter.

Miscellaneous.—From Mr. A. Biefield's report:—**MATCHES.**—This market continues inactive and prices are barely maintained. Sales are reported of 100 cases *Vienna*, *Stork* and *Dog Chop*, and 100 cases *Safety* of the same chop, at £15.75, and 50 cases *Red* and *Black Dip Safety* at £15.50. **SOAP.**—Very depressed and foreign makes are difficult to sell. **WINDOW GLASS.**—No change. **NEEDLES.**—Sales reported are:—10 cases 0/11 *Crown Chop*, 250 mille p.c. at £60.00; 20 cases 1/5 *Ellips Silver*, and 15 cases 3/7 *Ellips Silver*, 500 mille at £85.00; 40 cases 1/11 *Between*, 100 mille at £25.50; 20 cases 1/5 *Blue Lion*, 500 mille at £65.75; 20 cases 1/5 *Silver Sharps*, 500 mille at £52.50. **DYES AND COLOURS.**—Considerable animation has existed in this market during the week and about 140,000 bottles each 2 oz. *Crystal Green* of various chops have been sold at prices ranging from 9½ to 12 cands. for ordinary qualities, 14 to 16½ cands. for better goods and 18½ cands. for best chops. Small parcels in tins of 8 oz. have been settled at 22 to 36 cands. according to chops. Further sales reported are:—3,000 bottles each 2 oz. *Magenta*, 4 Men chop, at 11 cands.; 2,500 bottles each 2 oz. *Magenta*, *Eagle chop*, at 15½ cands.; 5,000 bottles each 2 oz. *Magenta*, 2 Men chop, at 13 cands.; 10,000 bottles each 2 oz. *Magenta*, *Lion chop*, at 11 cands.; 2,000 bottles each 2 oz. *Magenta*, *Elephant chop*, at 11 cands.; 1,500 tins each 8 oz. *Magenta*, *Boys chop*, at 40 cands.; 3,000 tins each 8 oz. *Magenta*, *Boys chop*, at 55 cands.; 3,500 tins each 8 oz. *Scarlet*, *Dog chop*, at 20½ cands.; 4,000 tins each 8 oz. *Scarlet*, *Men chop*, at 15 a 22½ cands.; 20,000 bottles each 2 oz. *Scarlet*, *Boys chop*, at 8 cands.; 5,000 tins each 8 oz. *Violet*, *Sun chop*, at 14 cands.; 1,700 bottles each 2 oz. *Violet*, *Glass tops*, at 10 cands.; 5,000 tins each 8 oz. *Powder Green*, *Boys chop*, at 11 cands.; 2,000 tins each 8 oz. *Blue*, *Men chop*, at 12 a 13 cands.; 800 bottles each 2 oz. *Blue*, *Negro chop*, at 13½ cands.; 1,000 bottles each 2 oz. *Blue*, *House chop*, at 17½ cands.

Kerosene Oil.—Business has been very quiet. Although an increase is noticeable in the deliveries and re-exports, prices have been ranging downward from £1.21 to £1.19, for prompt delivery, but no sales of importance from first hands are on record. Stocks are estimated at about 900,000 cases.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—*Malwa*, new, at £380; old, at £410; *Patna*, new, at £385; *Benares*, new, at £365.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie & Burkill's circular:—London telegrams report more doing at lower rates. *Red Pagoda* 2—15/0; *Blue Elephant*—14/6; *Gold Kilin*—13/6.

RAW SILKS.—With a lower exchange and rather more general enquiry, Tael quotations for all descriptions have been fully maintained throughout the past week, and for favourite chop *Tsalties* a slight advance has been paid in one or two instances. Supplies are falling off and the unsold stock is reduced to 7,500 bales.

TSALTIES.—Sales, about 700 bales at £405 for best No. 4.

HANGCHOWS.—Only 20 bales have changed hands at quotations.

TAYSAMS.—Purchases include 50 bales of *Kahings* and 30 bales of 9×12 *Moss*.

YELLOW SILKS.—About 150 bales have been taken at £305 a 327½ for *Shantung*, at £282½ for *Mienchow*, at £212½ for common *Fooyung*, and at £162½ for *Szechong*.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from the 22nd to the 28th February are about 85 bales of *White Silk*, 30 piculs of *Yellow Silk* and 250 piculs of *Wild Silk*.

RE-REELS.—Since the departure of the American mail on the 25th ultimo with 156 bales, no business has been reported.

WILD SILKS.—About 100 bales have been settled; quotations for fair ordinary *Tussah* have fallen to £120 per picul.

WASTE SILKS.—Transactions are on a very small scale. Fine Gum is quoted £109 a 110, Coarse Gum £86 a 87.

SHANTUNG PONGEES.—Sales of 500 pieces have been made at £250 for 25/26 oz. goods.

Purchases include:—**TSATLEE**—*Beautiful Woman I* at £412½, *Chick IV* at £405, *Red Pagoda II* at £405, *Blue Elephant* at £390 *Chick IV* at £387½, *Bird "Chun-lin"* at £370, *Deer "Vuu-loh"* at £360, *Gold Ki-lin* at £357½. **HANGCHOW TSATLEE**—*Lily Flower "Lan-nock"* at £325. **RE-REELLED TSATLEE**—Best chop at £495, Market III at £365. **TAYSAMS**—*White Kahings Chinuen-sung's "Kin-ling"* at £400, *Green Kahings M* at £327½, *Green Kahings MM* at £312½, 9/12 *Moss*, *Green Horse I* at £325. **YELLOW SILKS**—*Shantung*, *Gold Dragon* at £327½, *Shantung*, *Gold Lion* at £320, *Shantung*, *Blue Lion* at £305, *Mienchow* at £282½, *Fooyung*, common, at £212½, *Szechong* at £162½. **TUSSAH**—Raw fair at £120.

	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
Settlements for this mail †	about 1,250	1,500	500	800	300	300 bales.
„ for the season †	50,000	49,250	51,500	46,300	44,000	45,500 „
Stock	7,500	6,500	5,500	3,500	20,700	15,700 „
Total Arrivals	57,500	55,750	57,000	49,800	64,700	61,200 „

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this market.

	*England.	*France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export White Silk	3,905	28,164	32,069	4,623	60	420	37,172 bales.
" Yellow "	16	4,172	4,188	14	948	494	5,644 "
" Wild "	210	5,728	5,938	35	...	45	6,018 "
	4,131	38,064	42,195	4,672	1,008	959	48,834 "
Against in 1885-86.....	8,374	29,625	37,999	6,283	2,355	1,180	47,817 "
" 1884-85.....	8,017	34,983	43,000	4,119	2,433	970	50,522 bales.

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.
Also 3,329 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.
" 61 " " to Marseilles

Tea.—**BLACK.**—A few transactions have taken place during the past week, and settlements amount to 1,735 half-chests, consisting of Common to Fair Oopack at from £12½ a 13.95 per picul, showing rather easier rates.

The stock remaining in native hands is now reduced to about 400 half-chests.

GREEN.—About 2,580 half-chests Pingsueys have changed hands during the interval, principally on native account, at rather irregular prices.

In Country Tea there has been next to nothing done, and supplies are nearly finished.

STOCK.—5,286 half-chests against 3,306 half-chests in 1885-86.

SUMMARY OF SETTLEMENTS SINCE LAST MAIL.

Pingsuey	2,580 half-chests at £15½ to £25½ per picul.
Fychow	114 " shipped.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM SHANGHAI AND YANGTZE PORTS.

From commencement of season to date:

	1886-87.			1885-86.		
	Black.	Green.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Total.
To Great Britain.....	64,846,948	7,243,957	72,090,905 lbs.	66,505,751	10,976,816	77,582,567 lbs.
Russia direct	11,616,351	.....	11,616,351 "	8,118,272	.....	8,118,272 "
United States.....	3,378,771	15,495,630	18,874,401 "	2,880,064	15,528,446	18,408,510 "

Shares.—There has been a fair business in shares during the past week, Hongkong Banks having fluctuated, falling four points and then recovering two. Sales have been made at 152 per cent. premium, 151, 150, 148, 141 ex div. of £1.10s., and 143, all at exchange 73. China Shippers' Mutual Steams were done at £7.10., exchange 4/7. In Insurance, Chinese have been sold at \$177½, Hongkong Fires at \$430, and China Fires at \$90, 91 and 91½, all at exchange 73; and Yangtzes at £108½. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharfs have been sold at £156 ex div. of £3.75, and Pootung Wharfs at £113 for 30th June. Shanghai Cargo-boats have changed hands at £157 and 162, ex div. of £5, and Co-operative Cargo-boats at £55. Shanghai Waterworks have brought £27.10., exchange 4/5½. Sheridan Mines have been done at £117½ and 120, and Perak Tins at \$20. Hall and Holtz shares have been sold at £23, China Loan bonds, C, at \$540, and E at £263.

Exchange.—Rates for the mail, excepting just at the close, have been very steady, with an inclination to firmness, but business has been very small in both Sterling and Rupees. The latest quotation for Bar Silver is 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. Native interest is 2 mace, equal to 7½ per cent per annum.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Weekly Circular.)

	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		HONGKONG.	INDIA.
	T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.			Rupees. T. transfers.
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.		
Thursday, 24th.....	4.5½	4.5½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	5.77/5.80	5.79/5.82	27½	302
Friday, 25th	4.5½	4.5½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	5.77/5.80	5.77/5.80	27½	302
Saturday, 26th	4.5½	4.5½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	5.77/5.80	5.77/5.80	27½	302
Monday, 28th	4.5½	4.5½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	5.77/5.80	5.78/5.81	27½	302
Tuesday, 1st March	4.5½	4.5½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	5.78/5.81	5.78/5.81	27½	302½
Wednesday, 2nd ...	4.5½	4.5½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	4.6½	5.77/5.80	5.77/5.80	27½	302

AUCTION SALES.

COTTON GOODS.

Grey Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—Total for the week, 21,290 pieces.

At E-wo, on 23rd ultimo, 2,800 pieces; at £1.23½/24½ for Green Peacock, £1.38½/38½ for Blue Duck, £1.41½ for X.X. Black, Tea Caddy, and £1.58/58½ and £1.64½/65½ for D.D.D. Blue and Double Blue Tea Caddy.

At Jin-kee, same day, 250 pieces Gold Scroll at £1.61 per piece.

At Yuen-fong, on 24th ultimo, 8,240 pieces; at £1.19/19½ for Two Man, £1.23½ for House, £1.36½/36½, £1.47½/47½, and £1.56½/56½ for Loyal Son, blue, red and painted, £1.38½/38½ and £1.48½/48½ for Britannia, blue and painted, £1.40, and £1.49½/49½ for Four Sisters, blue and red, £1.45½ and £1.54½/54½ for Three Students, blue and red, £1.61½/61½ for Five Brothers, £1.61½/62½ for Blue Unicorn, and £1.62½/63 for Chop Dollar.

At Kin-ming, this morning, 2,800 pieces; at £1.44½/44½ for Red Lion, £1.50½/51½ for Red Eagle, £1.51½ for Red Ram and £1.44½ for Blue Crown.

At Pao-shun, this afternoon, 7,200 pieces; at £1.41½/42½ for Lion-on-Bale, £1.63½ and £1.63 for Green Lion A. and A.A. and £1.66½/66½, £1.66/66½ and £1.66/66½ for Eagle, unlettered, XX and XXX.

6-lbs.—975 pieces; at £0.91½/92 for Two Man, and £0.95½ for Three Students.

7-lbs.—2,450 pieces; at £1.19½/20½ for Red Tea Caddy, £1.07 for Loyal Son, £1.09½ for Britannia, £1.22 for Four Sisters, and £1.26½/27 for Three Students.

9-lbs.—250 pieces Chop Dollar at £1.74½ per piece.

9½-lbs. a 11-lbs.—6,155 pieces; at £1.95½/96 and £1.99½/99½ for X.X. Blue, and Double Blue Tea Caddy, £1.69½, £1.89½, and £2.11½/12 for Loyal Son, blue, red and painted, £1.74½, £1.89½ and £2.11½/11½ for Britannia, blue, red and painted, £1.94½/95 and £2.18½/19 for Three Students, red and painted, £1.97 for Blue Lion, £2.01/02 for Red Four Sisters, and £2.00½/01½ and £2.33½/34 for Chop Dollar, 10-lbs. and 11-lbs.

12-lbs.—360 pieces; at £2.37/37½ for Britannia, and £2.30 and £2.44½ for Single and Double Squirrel.

White Shirtings.—64-reed 3,400 pieces; at £1.35/35½ and £1.33½/34 for House, dressed and undressed, £1.44 and £1.42/43 for Blue Lighthouse, dressed and undressed, and £1.68½/69½ for Black-Gold Three Students.

72-reed and higher.—3,143 pieces; at £1.77, £1.83½/83½ and £1.91½/91½ for Double Eagle, 4,000, 5,000, and 6,000, £1.88, 88½ for White-Gold Three Students, £1.90/89½ for Red Two Sisters, £1.90½/90½ and £1.90/91 for Red Lighthouse, dressed and undressed, and £2.07, and £2.11½ for Red Star, dressed and undressed.

White Irishes.—850 pieces; at £1.90/91 for Stag, £1.80 for Anchor, and £2.32½ for Green-Gold Three Students.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—3,810 pieces; at \$1.13 and \$1.26½/26½ for Tea Caddy, red and blue, \$1.04½ for Blue Loyal Son, \$1.06½ and \$1.22½ for Britannia, blue and painted, \$1.10½ and \$1.35½ for Three Students, blue and red, \$1.16 for Blue Lion, \$1.28½ for X.X. Eagle, \$1.02 for Green Ram, and \$1.16/16½ for No. 1 Sun.

8-lbs.—1,390 pieces; at \$1.36½/37 for Blue Dragon and Flag, \$1.38½ for Blue Lion, \$1.44½ for X.X. Eagle, and \$1.60 for Painted Three Students.

Drills.—English, 1,020 pieces; at \$2.12 for Dragon X., \$1.31/31½ for Indian Head, \$2.00½ for Stag, \$2.27 for Britannia, and \$2.28½ for Old Man Head.

Jeans.—English, 450 pieces; at \$1.36½ for Peacock, and \$1.81½ for Double Squirrel.

Sheetings.—English, 360 pieces; at \$2.28½/28½ for Lion, and \$2.54½/55½ for Old Man Head.

Velvets.—300 pieces Woman, at \$0.11.6½ per yard for Ordinary, and \$0.12 0½ per yard for Sin-wo.

Velveteens.—26-inch. 60 pieces Stag at \$0.17 yard.

WOOLLENS. ¶

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Ok. Blue.	Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash and Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. Mid. "	Sales Pcs.
E-wo, 23rd ultimo.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
Camlets, Horseman...	9.38	.....	9.08/10	9.59	9.09	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.90	.....	
Sales, pcs....	30	.....	30	10	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.00	.....	90
House.....	9.30	.....	9.31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	30	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.45	.....	60
Boar.....	9.04/08	.....	8.59	8.71	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	
Sales, pcs....	30	.....	30	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
Long Ells, H.D.B., p.p	4.95/96	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Lasting, Warrior.....	.....	.....	5.95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.21	.....	.....	.....	60
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	
H.D.B. ....	.....	.....	7.39	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Unicorn.....	.....	.....	8.15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
S. Stripes, Eagle.....	0.41.7/41.8	0.39.4	0.44½/44.6	0.41	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.36.4	.....	.....	.....	40
Sales, pcs....	48	6	24	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	96
YUEN-PONG, 24th ult.													
Camlets, S.S.G. p.p.c.	9.8' 1/2/92½	10.00/02½	10.00/02½	.....	10.02½/05	.....	10.30	.....	10.00	.....	10.60.65	10.00/02½	
Sales, pcs....	140	110	140	.....	30	.....	10	.....	10	.....	30	30	590
G.G., p.p.c....	10.00	10.60/67½	10.30	10.55	10.37½	.....	.....	.....	10.12½	.....	10.87½/97½	10.07½	
Sales, pcs....	120	60	60	10	10	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	20	10	300
Long Ells, G.G., p.p.c.	5.11	5.65	5.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.26	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	60	20	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	120
Lasting, G.G., p.p.c.	.....	.....	8.15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.22½	.....	.....	8.65	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	160	.....	.....	20	200
Man & Tiger	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.95	.....	.....	6.87½	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	.....	.....	20	100
Nine Old Men	.....	.....	7.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7.20	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	.....	.....	.....	100
S. Stripes, T.T.B.....	0.46½	0.44½	0.48½	0.46½	.....	0.46½	.....	0.45½	4.45½	.....	0.47	.....	100
Sales, pcs....	132	24	60	6	.....	6	.....	6	6	.....	6	.....	252
MISCELLANEOUS, Y'day													
Camlets, R.R.	8.70	7.50	8.52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	10	10	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Lastings—													
No. 3 D'ble Dragon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.75	.....	.....	.....	60
X 4 Double Dragon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.46	.....	.....	.....	20
No. 4 D'ble Dragon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.40	.....	.....	.....	20
S. Stripes, 100 X. p.p	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	12	11	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
No. 100.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	12	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
Union Cloths, S.S.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.47/46½	.....	.....	.....	12
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.40½	.....	.....	.....	6
S.S.S. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Union Lastings, U. 7.	.....	.....	4.90	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.10	.....	.....	.....	40
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	
KIN-MING, to-day.													
Camlets, C.P.H. p.p.c.	10.39/39	10.89	10.43/44	.....	10.39	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.87/10½	
Sales, pcs....	50	20	20	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	130
Tiger.....	9.66	8.77	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	10	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Eagle.....	9.90	9.53/55	9.79/10.00	.....	10.15	9.35	.....	.....	.....	10.65	.....	9.74/77	
Sales, pcs....	180	60	60	.....	10	10	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	60	390
Swan p.p.c....	9.64/83	8.67	9.74	.....	.....	9.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.51	
Sales, pcs....	60	20	20	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	130
Duck.....	9.45/46	8.00	9.58	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.00	8.93/9.04	
Sales, pcs....	60	20	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	20	130
Cock.....	9.18/20	7.62/64	9.41/42	.....	9.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.75/77	
Sales, pcs....	60	20	20	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	130
Lastings, Tiger.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
SIN-VO, to-day.													
Camlets, Owl, O.O.O.	9.44	9.69	9.63	9.91	9.66	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	10	10	10	10	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
Gold Fish, P.P.P.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
R.R.R. Angler..	9.22	9.39	9.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	30	10	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
L. Ells, H.H., p.p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Lastings, H.H. p.p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
White Stork	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
S. Stripes, H.H.....	0.48.6/48.9	0.45½	0.58	0.46	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.45½	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	36	6	18	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	72
Gold Fish, P.P.P.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	

* Average rates \$0.33.2 per yard; and \$0.35.7 per yard.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 28th February, 1887, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 41 to 46, both inclusive.

RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.

GOODS.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.	Corea.	Local.	Mindanao.
Grey Shirtings \$.....Pcs.	9,070	...	19,330	2,695	2,250	35,650	6,350	...	...	645	...	9,600	350	2000	1100	12,000	350
T-Cloths, 32-in.	1,555	...	1,930	600	1,080	3,200	9,060	...	...	6,100	...	...	...	...	30	1,900	500
" 36-in.	1,700	...	200	220	330	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	...
White Shirtings	1,657	...	3,100	630	100	12,630	1,050	...	...	50	...	60	159	9	400	1,400	100
Drills, English & Dutch ..	60	...	60	45	...	1,195	...	...	...	30	60	...	...	600	75	210	...
" American	...	...	315	30	...	390	75	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Jeans, English & Dutch ..	90	...	...	...	...	30	190	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...
" American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	...
Sheetings, English	40	...	330	130	...	1,170	2,820	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160	...
" American	200	...	120	20	...	40	1,420	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	580	...
Dyed Shirtings	...	...	1,840	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Dyed	...	...	210	...	100	310	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes	238	...	757	80	148	370	329	...	...	40	...	...	300	...	...	350	...
Printed T-Cloths	340	...	120	...	...	60	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	...
Printed Twills	...	...	720	80	...	160	...	...	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	180	...
Turkey Red Shirtings	220	...	1,221	50	100	1,600	4,405	...	...	674	500	...	200	...	...	400	400
Velvets	...	...	...	54	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	30
Velveteens	...	...	24	...	5	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
Handkerchiefs	200	...	1,248	400	640	455	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	210	1,000	...
Muslins	100	...	200	...	...	698	...	...	...	200	...	7,570	...	...	...	400	...
Dimities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Yarn	...	...	15	...	...	360	3,423	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...
Spanish Stripes	72	...	252	12	18	234	204	...	...	30	120	...	...	...	...	54	...
Medium and Broad Cloths ..	60	...	72	6	6	84	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	50	...
Camlets	50	...	70	50	110	1,310	140	...	...	110	250	...	...	...	...	150	...
Long Ellis	40	...	220	100	40	500	60	...	...	20	...	...	...	40	...	100	20
Lastings	...	...	80	...	80	640	140	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	60	100	20
" Crape	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italians ..	170	...	190	...	80	1,640	2,040	...	...	30	...	...	200	...	240	240	...
Lustres, Plain	60	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Figured	60	...	540	...	...	460	160	...	...	160	...	...	...	...	...	120	...
" Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	175	...	756	36	566	842	127	...	...	545	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	584	...	1,470	96	...	1,176	651	...	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

GOODS.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, OF 1ST JAN., 1887.	
	As above.	For Year From 1st Jan'y. 1887.	Against last year same terms.	Since 17th inst.	For Year From 1st Jan'y. 1887.	Against last year same terms.	*At date Estimated.	Against 1st March, 1886.
Grey Shirtings \$.....Pcs.	101,390	425,502	440,177	97,595	575,626	578,637	1,311,100	1,103,600
T-Cloths, 32-in.	25,955	85,625	84,195	33,167	211,391	137,489	418,400	331,100
" 36-in.	2,950	11,409	17,485	5,170	65,380	47,566	143,740	114,150
White Shirtings	21,345	96,526	125,754	31,170	127,132	232,109	282,730	524,700
Drills, English and Dutch ..	2,335	25,500	5,950	5,220	29,685	66,205	124,510	93,400
" American	990	5,820	14,145	7,275	33,765	31,650	38,300	32,000
Jeans, English and Dutch ..	390	2,470	2,830	2,250	23,730	17,420	34,200	37,650
" American	40	340	120	...	...	...	6,760	7,900
Sheetings, English	4,650	50,045	24,125	1,830	31,676	49,650	43,750	103,300
" Am.	2,380	13,120	20,660	16,530	39,681	73,050	16,630	284,700
Dyed Shirtings	1,990	10,027	5,562	1,528	10,274	8,340	8,340	10,670
Bro. & Spot. S'ts., White ..	...	399	600	...	497	2,885	1,600	4,720
" Dyed	920	3,390	3,517	483	3,775	2,222	14,270	11,340
Damasks, Dyed	...	280	390	...	...	...	290	250
Chintzes	2,612	11,881	15,189	2,744	22,592	51,413	84,500	89,100
Printed T-Cloths	760	4,527	4,453	7,217	22,820	10,648	97,710	64,760
Printed Twills	1,220	4,489	7,312	1,049	4,607	30,797	79,920	99,600
Turkey Red Shirtings	9,770	31,229	30,559	1,686	34,273	50,645	149,220	185,100
Velvets	294	2,751	3,564	186	2,470	5,762	22,350	17,520
Velveteens	119	473	862	270	1,178	8,254	3,410	9,600
Handkerchiefs	4,153	20,216	26,280	13,276	49,246	26,633	151,610	97,200
Muslins	9,168	43,757	42,800	9,930	18,820	57,295	78,900	95,250
Dimities	...	200	300	...	600	250	6,045	...
Cotton Yarn	3,804	10,892	11,430	7,094	24,152	12,054	25,070	20,250
Spanish Stripes	996	3,414	4,174	384	4,314	9,772	21,570	19,850
Medium and Broad Cloths ..	318	896	1,742	1,390	3,605	3,508	22,990	16,260
Camlets	2,240	11,063	12,520	2,527	17,697	11,720	29,820	15,650
Long Ellis	1,440	6,596	8,890	2,020	10,840	10,480	17,940	7,090
Lastings	1,140	5,110	10,775	2,310	15,253	18,123	64,030	32,937
" Crape	40	60	80	...	...	...	640	1,120
Lastings, Cotton & Italians ..	4,830	18,828	21,934	9,509	40,577	68,852	124,670	201,900
Lustres, Plain	120	170	350	...	92	650	580	1,750
" Figured	1,500	3,699	6,720	600	3,307	13,159	38,040	33,407
" Crape	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	797
Lead in Pigs	3,047	10,434	15,537	4,211	17,844	15,966	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	4,006	12,230	20,028	...	16,298	34,440	...	...

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per *Glengyle, Sikh, Nestor, Devonshire, Glenartney, Prometheus, Telamon, Oxus, and Coromandel*.
 Import Cargoes declared this week: *Nürnberg, Achilles, Am Mail, Irrawaddy, and Ganges*, additional ex
 † including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

2ND MARCH, 1887.

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfer, 4s. 5½d. Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 5½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 6½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 6½d. 6 months' sight, 4s. 6½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 4s. 6½d. 6 months' sight, 4s. 6½d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 5.65, Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.77, 6 months' sight, 5.80. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 90. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 27½; Private Bills, 3 days, sight 28½. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 392; Calcutta, Rs. 302. Bullion—Gold Bar, Peking, 98 touch, £219.50. Silver Bars, £111.10. Mexican Dollars, £72.425. Copper Cash, 1,420. Native Interest, mace 2.

SHARES.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Our market dragged until the 26th ultimo, when shares were placed locally and to Hongkong at 150% prem. and ex. 73. On the 28th forced sales of 50 shares caused the rate to recede to 143% prem. and ex. 73. These sales were made cum dividend. The dividend was paid on the 23th, at 3/3½ an d£4.6½, equal to about 7½ per cent. on the par value. The market closes strong with buyers at 144% prem. and ex. 73, ex div.

China Shippers' Mutual S. N. Co.—A small lot was placed at £7½ and ex. 4/7.

Compagnie du Gaz.—The Report and Accounts for 1886 were presented and passed at the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders held on the 25th ult. The profits for the year were £10,797.95, from which a sum of £4,138.93 was written off for depreciation, leaving a net balance of £6,659.03, (equal to 13½ per cent. on the capital), available for distribution, as against £6,674.20 in 1885. This balance is disposed of as follows: £332.23 to Reserve, £5,750 as a dividend of 11½ per cent. to shareholders, and £76.65 carried forward. An interim dividend of 5½ per cent. was paid in July, and a final dividend of 6 per cent. was paid yesterday. The Reserve Fund now stands at £17,967.07.—We now quote shares £161 ex div.

Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited.—Shares have changed hands at £108½ and £108.

Chinese Insurance Co., Limited.—Business has been done in this stock at £177½ and ex. 73.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited.—Shares have been placed at £130 and ex. 73 cum div. They are obtainable at this rate.

China Fire Insurance Co., Limited.—This stock has been in demand, and shares have changed hands at £90 to £91½ and ex. 73 cum div. They are wanted at the higher rate.

Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Co.—Shares have been sold at £20 and ex. 73, and are offering at the same rate.

Sheridan Mining Co.—Business has been done in this stock at £117½ and £120.

Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Business is reported at £162 and £160.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Shares have changed hands at £55.

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Limited.—A transaction took place at £27½ and ex. 4/5½.

Hall & Holtz Co-operative Co., Limited.—One or two small lots have been sold at £23.

Chinese Imperial Government Loans.—Bonds of issue C have been sold at £540 and ex. 73, and of issue E at £263.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	
<i>Bank.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	60,000	\$125	\$125	4,500,000.00	\$25,313.43	31 Dec. 86	* £1½	28 Feb. 87	144% prem.
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ltd.	50,000	£10	£10	.....	£106,155.18	31 Mar. 86	* 2½	19 Feb. 86	£10½
<i>Shipping.</i>									
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	1,000	¥100	¥100	¥5,100.00	¥4,625.74	31 Mar. 86	* 3 ½	14 Jan. 87	¥95
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co., ...	60,000	£10	£10	.....	£4,387.59	31 Dec. 85	+ 7 ½	2 Aug. 86	£35
Shanghai Shipping Co., ...	150	¥1,000	¥1,000	.....	¥114.88	31 Dec. 86	+ 2 ½	14 Feb. 87	¥300 nominal.
China Shippers' Mutual S. N. Co.	50,000	£20	£10	£11,764.15	£1,234.10	31 Dec. 85	5 ½	30 Apr. 86	£7½
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co., ...	440	¥500	¥500	¥18,000.00	¥234.45	31 Dec. 86	* 2 ½	14 Jan. 87	325
Footung Dock Co., ...	950	¥100	¥100	¥1,900	¥387.77	31 Dec. 86	* 5 ½	14 Jan. 87	126½
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co., ...	2,000	¥100	¥100	¥51,794.47	¥47,565.04	31 Dec. 85	* 6 ½	13 Jan. 87	184
Compagnie du Gaz	500	¥100	¥100	¥17,134.69	¥89.92	31 Dec. 85	* 6 ½	6 July 86	161
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited.	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$600,000.00	\$187,524.75	30 Apl. 86	20 ½	30 Aug. 86	\$64
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd., ...	5,000	£200	£50	£102,512.26	£406,132.00	30 June 86	¥22.05	30 Apl. 86	¥262½
Union Ins. Society of Canton Ltd.	10,000	¥250	¥25	¥614,000.00	¥314,012.96	30 June 86	¥6½	2 Oct. 86	¥83
Yangtze Insurance Association Ltd.	8,000	£25	£25	¥85,000.00	¥92,142.93	31 Mar. 85	* 3½	21 July 86	¥108
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	¥1,000	¥200	¥28,711.50	¥2,868.89	31 Dec. 85	* 3 ½	8 Oct. 86	¥177½
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	¥250	¥50	¥188,000.00	¥494,906.00	30 Sep. 86	+ 10 ½	11 Jan. 87	¥75
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.	20,000	\$100	\$20	.....	.....	.....	12 ½	.....	\$30
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	¥250	¥50	\$1,000,000.00	\$328,567.46	31 Dec. 86	+ ¥55 ½	3 Mar. 86	\$430
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited	20,000	¥100	¥20	¥612,500.00	¥283,738.44	31 Dec. 86	+ 30 ½	2 Mar. 86	¥91½
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.,	20,000	\$100	\$20	.....	.....	.....	.....	First year	\$17
<i>Wharfs.</i>									
Shanghai & New Wharf Co., ...	2,867	¥100	¥100	¥87,589.75	¥151.26	31 Dec. 86	* 3½	23 Feb. 86	¥156
Bir's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company	2,100	¥50	¥50	¥3,449.46	¥308.81	31 Oct. 86	* 34 ½	20 Nov. 86	¥22
Footung Wharf & Godown Co.,	2,300	¥100	¥100	¥12,000	¥1,463.22	31 Dec. 86	* 6 ½	8 Feb. 87	¥107½
<i>Mining.</i>									
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	5,000	\$50	\$50	.....	¥2,552.08	31 Dec. 85	None.	.....	\$20
Sheridan Mining Co., ...	2,800	¥100	¥100	.....	¥1,600.76	31 Dec. 86	¥5	11 Jan. 87	¥120
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co., ...	1,000	¥200	¥200	¥9,300.65	.....	31 Dec. 86	* 5 ½	23 Feb. 87	¥160
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co., ...	1,000	¥100	¥100	¥2,000	¥835.32	31 Dec. 86	* 2 ½	17 Feb. 87	¥55
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.,	6,000	£20	£20	£5,000.00	£574.410	31 Dec. 86	+ 1½	18 May 86	£27½
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., New Shares	1,200	£20	£5	.....	.....	.....	None.	.....	£7½
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., ...	5,000	¥50	¥50	.....	¥122,192.29	.....	None.	.....	¥16
Hall & Holtz Co-op'tive Co., Ltd.	6,000	¥50	¥50	.....	¥2,632.52	28 Feb. 85	¥24	30 Apl. 86	¥23

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1878	¥ 24,000.00	¥ 24,000.00	¥ 100	8 ½	Dec. & June.	¥103
Do. 1882	¥ 60,000.00	¥ 60,000.00	¥ 100	7 ½	1 ^o .	¥105 nom.
Do. 1883	¥ 45,000.00	¥ 45,000.00	¥ 100	7 ½	Do.	¥106 "
Do. 1885	¥ 30,000.00	¥ 30,000.00	¥ 100	7 ½	Do.	¥105 "
China Merchants' S. N. Co. Debentures	£ 300,000	All.	£ 100	7 ½	Quarterly	£106
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1881	S. \$4,384,000	S. \$488,145.05	¥ 500	8 ½	May & Nov.	¥510
Do. do. 1884 A	\$1,394,700.14	All.	¥ 500	8 ½	Yearly.	\$ 500 nom.
Do. do. 1884 B	1,394,700.14	All.	¥ 500	8 ½	Do.	\$525
Do. do. 1884 C	\$1,594,700.14	All.	¥ 500	8 ½	Do.	\$540
Do. do. 1885	\$1,394,700.14	All.	¥ 500	8 ½	Do.	500 ex int., nom.
Do. do. 1886 E	S. ¥767,200	All.	¥ 250	7 ½	Mar. & Sept.	¥263

* For half-year. † For quarter year. ‡ For year. § A deficit. ¶ Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) At credit of underwriting account.

J. P. BISSET & Co,